

**Hamas condemns police chief's 'threats'**

DAMASCUS (AFP) — The Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas refused Saturday to hand over any of its members to the Palestinian police, despite pledges to track down the killers of two suspected collaborators. Palestinian police chief Nasr Youssef has said he was prepared to lose 100 men to find the Hamas members who last week murdered two Palestinians they accused of collaborating with Israel. Hamas said in a statement here it "condemned the threats made by Nasr Youssef, and his insistence on continuing to provoke our people by protecting traitors and pursuing those who fight against (Israeli) occupation." "We will not give up our arms, nor any members of our movement, we warn against any attempts to harm them," Hamas men kidnapped three people on May 25. Two days later two captives were found hanging from electricity pylons. The third man was freed. After a police warning the fundamentalists agreed to halt the kidnapping "for the time being" to see if the new Palestinian police force could do the job. But they refused to hand over the kidnappers.

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# Jordan, Israel start talks on border demarcation tomorrow

## King deplores lack of Arab coordination, says Jordan has own interests

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein on Saturday expressed dissatisfaction with the level of coordination among the Arab parties involved in peace negotiations with Israel and said Jordan might have to adopt action in the absence of such coordination.

"It seems that the coordination with the brothers proceed from our side only and is a one-sided process as the parties have not yet crystallised coordination even at the lowest possible and acceptable level," the King said after chairing part of a Cabinet session attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

The peace process, the King said, "is a serious and continuing process regardless of the recent events in Lebanon, which was exposed to an aggression and which sustained heavy human losses." He said the peace process would continue despite the aggression.

Referring to the Jordanian

agenda for peace talks, King Hussein said: "We must continue the talks on the basis of the agenda and concentrate our attention on the land and the water rights. We should seek various avenues in order to execute all the items on the agenda for the attainment of peace that can give us reassurances over our present and future."

"We have great hope that the future will see progress along all the other tracks in a satisfactory manner, and I am convinced that this would materialise," Dr. Anani said.

Referring to Jordanian-Palestinian coordination, the King said: "On our part we are ready for coordination and our position is clear. If our brothers came to us to discuss any subject, we would show readiness and employ all our means to help them. But we cannot say that we are working as a one team yet."

"This talk is regrettably still

(Continued on page 5).

If accords reached on border, water issues, venue could be shifted closer to home — Anani  
**Trilateral economic group also to meet in Washington**

By a Jordan Times  
Staff Reporter  
with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Jordan and Israel will start informal talks on Monday on their long-standing border dispute after Amman has received indications that the Jewish state is willing to end its stalling over the issue, Information Minister Jawad Al Anani said Saturday.

Dr. Anani, addressing reporters after a session of the Council of Ministers partly chaired by His Majesty King Hussein, said Jordan and Israel would also hold a session of the trilateral economic working group, which includes the United States, on the operations of Jordanian commercial banks in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and development projects in the Jordan Valley.

Both meetings would be

held in Washington, he said, adding that if agreements were reached on the border issues then Jordan might be willing to move the venue for further talks closer to home.

"You cannot draw the lines from Washington," Dr. Anani said.

Jordan has received indications that Israel is "ready to discuss these border questions" after evading them despite the signing of an agenda in September for negotiations including the topic, he said. "If Israel is serious about wanting to resolve the border issue, there will be no delay for Jordan in securing its rights," he said.

Officials reaffirmed the Kingdom's stand that joint projects with Israel could come only after the Jewish state agrees to satisfactory solutions to the key issues of border demarcation, security and water rights.

(Continued on page 5)



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor and Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Royal Family

clergymen pray on Saturday at the tomb of Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother (Petra photo)

## Queen Mother remembered for her dedicated life

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan on Saturday marked the elapse of 40 days after the passing of Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother, with a remembrance ceremony attended by Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor and Royal Family members.

The ceremony was held at the Queen Zein Al Sharaf Social Development Complex,

which was opened yesterday in memory of the late Queen Mother.

"This is a precious and emotional moment in our lives because it brought together the whole family to remember our mother to whom we turned to when our father passed away," Her Royal Highness Princess Basma said addressing a crowd of 500 people that included close relatives, friends and government officials.

"Our mother was our support in all hours of need and it is our right to cry to commemorate our mother. But you my brother (King Hussein) taught us to be patient and to continue to extend help," Princess Basma added.

The Queen Mother passed

away on April 26, 1994 at a hospital in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Princess Basma said her mother's influence and requests of continuous charity work produced the social complex that was opened yesterday.

I present this project as a present to our mother's soul," Princess Basma said.

Ahmad Al Lawzi, speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, recalled Queen Zein's great contributions to national progress and the advancement of women and social work in Jordan.

"She left a strong mark on the Kingdom because she was an active supporter and pioneer of the women's movement in Jordan and was behind its progress and development with her support for establishing charity and orphanage societies," Mr. Lawzi said.

Dr. Mohammad Adnan Bakht, who also spoke at Saturday's ceremony, remembered the late Queen Mother as a symbol and model for all Jordanians.

After she finished her studies, she came back to Jordan to become active in the Arab renaissance, and played a ma-

ior role in developing and supporting women in this country," Dr. Bakht said.

Dr. Khaled Karaki, former advisor to King Hussein paid tribute to the late Queen Mother's support for King Hussein when he had to take full responsibility of the Kingdom at the age of 18.

Your mother stood beside you and beside the Jordanians supporting you with firm will and determination," Dr. Karaki said.

Earlier in the day, King Hussein, Queen Noor, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Mohammad, Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Basma and the Royal Family visited the tomb of the Queen Mother and prayed for her soul.

The late Queen Mother was born on Aug. 2, 1916. She was married to King Talal Ben Abdullah in 1934 and was the mother of three sons and a daughter; King Hussein and Their Royal Highnesses Prince Mohammad, Prince Hassan and Princess Basma. Then Crown-Prince Talal and Princess Zein were involved in the early development of Jordan.

(Continued on page 5)

## Southerners seek more fighters as Sanaa said considering a ceasefire

Combined agency dispatches

OUTNUMBERED southern Yemenis sought new fighters on Saturday to stave off northern attacks on Aden and appealed for foreign doctors to treat wounded civilians in villages near battlefronts.

The authorities in Sanaa were considering taking steps towards a possible ceasefire in the fighting, diplomats said.

The diplomats said President Ali Abdullah Saleh, a northerner, had been holding intensive contacts with his aides over the past two days on a possible ceasefire in the war, which began on May 4 after four years of north-south union.

Yemeni officials were not immediately available to comment. The diplomats were unable to say when any decision on a ceasefire might be announced.

The official SABA news agency said on Friday that Mr. Saleh was holding "intensive

contacts" with Defence Ministry officials "to lay down necessary arrangements to deal with the U.N. Security Council (ceasefire) resolution." The agency did not elaborate.

Sanaa said it was ready to put into effect a resolution passed by the U.N. Security Council on Wednesday, but stopped short of saying whether it would accept a ceasefire or talk to southern leaders it condemns as rebels.

Diplomats said they thought government would try to show willingness to go along with the resolution while at the same time pressing forward on the battlefields, especially around Aden.

Around the city, northern and southern Yemeni forces traded sporadic rocket and artillery fire and southern officials tightened security on approach roads.

"We heard a lot of shelling in the night," a resident said. "Most of it seemed to be going out from the southern side to

the northern side." The rival armies appeared to regroup after a week of fierce battles on an arc north, northeast and west of the city.

"The situation is very serious. It's not rosy," said a senior southern source.

Despite constant pressure, southern forces struck back to recapture a village on the main road to Aden, witnesses said on Saturday.

"We call on all the world to help us with doctors and nurses to treat our wounded. There are scores of them, maybe much more," he told Reuters by telephone.

"Ali Abdullah Saleh is destroying villages where there are no soldiers at all. He is shelling them with artillery, that is a crazy and barbarous act," Mr. Jifri said.

Aden also accuses the north of using foreign troops. Television showed pictures of five men it said were Iraqis captured with northern units in Shabwa province on June 2.

(Continued on page 5)

## Arafat demands release of funds

NEW YORK (Agencies) —

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has said he would not go to Jericho, as expected this month, unless President Bill Clinton and the international community come up with more money for self-rule, the CBS television network said.

Mr. Arafat, asked if he felt the peace process was at an impasse, said "it seems so."

The PLO leader, interviewed by the "CBS Evening News" in Tunis, also sharply criticised Israel for its air raid on resistance bases in Lebanon on Thursday.

"This will increase the complication because we are looking to achieve peace and not to escalate," he said.

Asked if he saw the raid as military or political action, Mr. Arafat replied, "both."

Mr. Arafat, 64, also told CBS he was suffering from a bad case of the flu and not heart trouble, as some reports said Thursday, and his wife said there was nothing to worry about.

CBS said Mr. Arafat was putting new pressure on Mr. Clinton, the Israelis, Kuwaitis and others to come through with what he said was promised.

ised money to rebuild the Jericho and the Gaza Strip self-rule areas.

Asked if he would go to Jericho, as expected this month, unless more money is not provided, he replied, "No, I am not ready to deceive my people ... I am sorry to say that the Israeli occupation has destroyed all the infrastructure: Housing, schools, hospitals, roads, sewage."

International donors have pledged \$2.4 billion in aid over five years, but the new Palestinian administration said earlier this week that it had virtually no funds.

Mr. Arafat also said he was ready to include members of the Hamas group in his government.

He bristled when he was asked if, as someone who had lived by the gun, he had the skills to govern.

"Why didn't they ask (new South African President Nelson) Mandela this question? ... this has not been asked to any of the other freedom fighters who have succeeded and became in power. Only the Palestinians."

In Cairo, senior PLO official

was fired into the crowd in clashes soon after the blast.

"These incidents follow a three-day escalation in the town. The TIPH is in constant contact with the two sides (Israeli army and Palestinians) to try to calm the situation, without success up to now," TIPH said in a statement.

Palestinian sources put the number of inhabitants injured by the explosion in the town's old marketplace at eight.

Witness Hani Sulaihi, 25, told AFP: "I was sitting in the shade in the marketplace when I saw a bomb roll along to the Israeli army position and exploded at my feet."

Schoolboy Yasser Daud Al Zarro, 11, said: "I was injured in the leg, shoulder and hand but my cousin Abdul Hafez was injured in the head. There was a Palestinian vehicle there but no Israeli vehicle."

Elsewhere in the West Bank, the army closed off the centre of Ramallah Saturday following clashes between young Palestinians and soldiers.

Palestinian witnesses said an Israeli peace activist who filmed the clash was beaten by bullets and 11 others were taken to hospital after tear-gas

was fired into the crowd in clashes soon after the blast.

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# Middle East News

## PLO does not favour Israeli joint ventures

TUNIS (R) — Ahmad Qouriea, the new "minister" of trade and economy in the Palestinian self-rule government, said on Friday the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) did not support setting up joint ventures with Israel in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"It is not beneficial at all to set up companies with them (Israelis). This is not on the agenda," Mr. Qouriea, also known as Abu Ala, told Palestinian businessmen meeting in Tunis to discuss reconstruction plans for the self-rule areas.

Mr. Qouriea, who was the key Palestinian negotiator during 1993 secret peace talks with Israel in Norway, was asked by a businessman to clarify the PLO's position on the issue.

But pressed to say whether the PLO would consider joint ventures with Israel's illegal, he replied: "This is the general policy of the organisation. There is no a text saying whether they (joint-ventures) are banned or authorised."

Mr. Qouriea, who negotiated and signed the PLO-Israeli agreement on economy and trade as part of the self-rule accord signed in Cairo on May 4, said Israel had no

choice but to implement the accord by opening the Israeli market to Palestinian produce.

Under the accord, all Palestinian produce except eggs, poultry, tomatoes, cucumbers and potatoes were to enter unrestricted.

A spokesman for the Israeli agriculture ministry said last week that he would not let in Palestinian farm produce until Israeli farmers were assured of government compensation for any fall in prices.

Mr. Qouriea said he did not think Israel would maintain the ban. "I believe they have no choice..." he added.

He told the businessmen that procedures for imports of goods including machinery, and authorisations for construction work, would be the job of the Palestinian authority in the self-rule areas initially.

Their mandate would extend to the whole of the West Bank in about three months, when negotiations on the transfer of power are expected to be completed.

He said the building of a port in the Gaza Strip was a priority but the Palestinians might use Jordanian, Egyptian and Israeli ports in the meantime.

## U.S. said positive to Turkish bid for Iraqi pipeline flushing

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has given a positive response to Turkey's request that it be allowed to flush oil from an Iraqi pipeline and use the oil for its own purposes, a Turkish official said Friday.

Ozdem Sanberk, under-secretary of the Turkish Foreign Ministry, said he would spend two more days next week trying to work out the project with the U.N. Security Council which is enforcing sanctions including an oil embargo against Iraq.

The pipeline, which carried oil from Iraqi deposits across Turkey to the Mediterranean, was closed by the embargo. But it contains about eight to nine million barrels of oil.

Turkey has been trying to gain an exemption from the embargo to flush the oil out of the pipeline and refill it twice in what Mr. Sanberk called a "rescue operation" to keep the line in operating condition.

Turks also argue that the move would give them some deserved financial relief from the oil transit revenues lost as a result of the embargo.

"Turkey should not be penalised as a result of the embargo," Mr. Sanberk said. "The embargo is on Iraq, not Turkey."

The United States, while

praising Turkey's cooperation with the Gulf war allies and acknowledging its economic sacrifice, has been resisting releasing oil from the pipeline on the grounds that it would weaken the embargo.

Mr. Sanberk was asked whether he got a positive reaction in two days of talks with U.S. officials on the pipeline request.

"Yes, definitely," he said. U.S. State Department officials asked about the talks, did not return a phone call.

Mr. Sanberk said complicated problems remain to be worked out with the Security Council including the question of payment for the oil which would be worth about \$300 million on the open market.

More than two-thirds of the oil belongs to Iraq, the rest to

Iran. The army closes Jericho to Israelis in times of tension, and even when the town is open many Israelis prefer the bypass because there is no chance of being stoned, or stopped by Palestinian police.

The army closes Jericho to Israelis in times of tension, and even when the town is open many Israelis prefer the bypass because there is no chance of being stoned, or stopped by Palestinian police.

For years we were trained to be wary of (Palestinians), and fight them in battle, and now I'm supposed to obey them?" said settler Giora Shoshan, a veteran of the 1982 Lebanon war when Israel tried to quash the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The agreement granting Palestinians control of Jericho and the Gaza Strip in exchange for peace has left Naamaah hemmed in. At new army checkpoints separating Naamaah from the surrounding autonomy zone, soldiers check anyone entering or leaving the settlement.

Naamaah's 120 residents are weighing whether to leave now rather than wait five years for the fate of settlements to be decided — a provision of the autonomy agreement.

Unlike the zealous settlers in the hills above them who believe they are reclaiming "Biblical Jewish land," the families on this hot dusty plain came out of a sense of adventure — and because of hefty government subsidies.

Now they feel, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin wants them to leave.

Soldiers' bodies needed to free Palestinian prisoners

## Jericho settlers feel stranded by peace

NAAMAH, occupied West Bank (AP)

Since Palestinian autonomy was implemented, a bumpy single-lane road through a minefield has become this settlement's connection with Israel and a symbol of uneasy peace process.

Wary Israeli settlers take the road, once used only by the army to look for infiltrators, to avoid the Palestinian-controlled town of Jericho even though it often doubles the driving time to Jerusalem to 1½ hours.

The army closes Jericho to Israelis in times of tension, and even when the town is open many Israelis prefer the bypass because there is no chance of being stoned, or stopped by Palestinian police.

Several have been confronted by police in downtown Jericho for carrying weapons, even though the autonomy agreement allows them to.

Damay Gamliel, 32, a settler of Yemeni descent who speaks fluent Arabic, said he still runs errands in Jericho unarmed,

unlike other settlers, but a recent rally by Islamic fundamentalists there, combined with plans for the Palestinian police force to grow from 400 to 2,600, have made Mr. Gamliel nervous enough to apply for a gun license.

Farmers such as Eyal Levy are having second thoughts about staying. "We don't know what tomorrow will bring," he said.

"We won't fight if we are told to move, if they would tell us we could prepare," said Dudu Bar, 32, of Naaran, a collective farm north of Naamaah.

"Right now I don't know whether to invest more in my banana patch or not."

He said he was not concerned about a 20-minute confrontation he had in Jericho with a policeman who tried to take away his pistol.

But Bar may move to another collective farm inside Israel over the summer, he says.

"I don't see any future here," he said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Moroccan premier proposes consensus cabinet

RABAT (R) — Prime Minister-designate Abdal Latif Filali has proposed that Moroccan political parties form a cabinet of national consensus to tackle the country's main problems, an opposition leader said. Ali Yata, secretary-general of the Party of Progress and Socialism (PPS), told Reuters Mr. Filali made the proposal on Thursday when he received him for consultations. "The prime minister believes that the solution of the main problems facing the country... demands coordinated efforts of all national patriotic forces." He proposed that the latter form a government of national consensus. Mr. Yata said, "He intends to wait three or four months to attain this objective," he added. Mr. Filali was designated prime minister by King Hassan a week ago. He consulted the leaders of nine parties this week with a view to forming an interim government to be presented to parliament next week. Leaders of the main opposition parties, the Istiqlal and the Socialist Union of People's Forces (USFP), said they were not invited to join a new cabinet to replace the government of non-party technocrats named in November after legislative elections last summer. Mr. Filali's proposal appeared to indicate that there would be no major change in the interim government to be formed next week and which would be a caretaker cabinet until the end of the summer.

### Indonesian toll on Haj tops 500

JAKARTA (R) — The annual Haj pilgrimage has claimed the lives of 506 Indonesian Muslims, mostly through illness or old age, the Antara news agency said on Saturday. Antara, quoting religious ministry officials in Saudi Arabia, said some Indonesian pilgrims had also died because of the intense heat. It was unclear if the figures included five Indonesians killed in a Haj stampede almost two weeks ago near Mecca. Up to 270 pilgrims were killed in the stampede. On Thursday, Antara put the death toll of Indonesian pilgrims at 459. Indonesia, home to the world's biggest Muslim population, sent 163,000 pilgrims to the Haj, up from 123,000 in 1993. In 1990, up to 1,800 people were killed in a stampede in a pedestrian tunnel at Mecca. More than 450 Indonesians were among the dead.

### Suspect charged with PKK membership

PARIS (AFP) — A suspected militant of the separatist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) has been charged with membership in a "terrorist" organisation, judicial officials announced. Hasim Gonul, alias Zana, 28, was arrested in the northeastern city of Metz Tuesday. PKK militants told investigators after a police swoop against Kurdish separatists in November that Mr. Gonul had been entrusted with collecting funds for the PKK in southwest France. Mr. Gonul has already been charged with blackmail.

### 4 killed, 7 arrested in Egypt

ASSIUT (R) — Four militants were killed and four policemen were wounded in a shootout in southern Egypt on Friday, police sources said. In a separate clash in the south, one policeman was hurt. The sources said the first incident occurred when a police force stormed an abandoned house in the village of Hima in Sohag province, 450 kilometres south of Cairo, used a hideout by the four wanted militants. The sources said the militants opened fire. They were killed during the clash and the police commander, Hatem Hijazi, and three of his men were wounded in the clash. They said the militants were wanted for attacking trains carrying foreign tourists from upper Egypt to Cairo this year. In a second incident in the southern town of Al Badari, 330 kilometres south of Cairo, one police officer was wounded in his leg when his force raided a militant hideout. Seven militants were arrested in the raid. Militants have stepped up their attacks against police, public figures and tourists over the past two years in their drive to oust the government and impose a strict Islamic state. More than 400 people have been killed in political violence in Egypt over the past two years.

### 3 foreigners held in Turkey for drug smuggling

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish police have detained three foreign women in connection with an attempt to smuggle 800 grammes of heroin, the semi-official Anatolian agency reported. One woman was Nigerian and one Ghanaian, it said. A British consulate spokeswoman told Reuters the third woman was carrying forged documents identifying her as a British citizen but she had refused to reveal her true nationality, police refused comment on when the women were detained.

### Turkey, Israel negotiate free trade accord

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkey and Israel hope to lay down the framework of a free trade agreement next month, the Israeli minister of economics and planning, Shimon Shetreet, said on Friday. Delegates from both countries were expected to meet again in late July to discuss the accord, Mr. Shetreet was quoted as saying by Anatolia news agency. Mr. Shetreet, on a two-day visit to Turkey, is accompanied by 70 Israeli businessmen seeking investment opportunities in Turkey's defence, security, transport and irrigation sectors. Turkish Minister of Economy Aykut Dogan told reporters after meeting the Israeli delegation that Turkey hoped to boost its exports to Israel, mainly in textiles and dried fruit. Trade between the two countries stood at \$210 million last year. Mr. Dogan also said he was pleased with the number of Israeli tourists visiting Turkey this year, who had helped boost Turkey's foreign exchange revenue. Some 36,000 Israeli tourists visited Turkey in the first quarter of this year, a sixfold increase over the same period last year. The number could reach 500,000 by the end of 1994, Israeli consular officials in Istanbul said. Turkey has become the number one holiday spot for Israelis in recent years.

## Morocco: No decision on ties with Israel

RABAT (Agencies) — Morocco on Saturday reacted cautiously to a statement by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres that Morocco and Israel would exchange representatives "of some kind" this year.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that "if the Israeli side raised the question the Kingdom of Morocco has taken no decisions in this matter."

Morocco "still considers that such a decision is conditioned by Arab League resolutions and depends on the results of the Middle East peace process," the official news agency MAP quoted him as saying.

After conferring with King Hassan in Rabat on Thursday night, Mr. Peres said on his return to Israel: "It was agreed to renew or establish telecommunications between Israel

and Morocco and at a later stage to establish representations of some kind between the two countries."

In a statement on Friday, the government said King Hassan confirmed to Mr. Peres that he would host an international economic conference in the south Moroccan city of Marrakesh in early November.

The summit, which the government said would be devoted to the development of the Middle East, will be attended by Israel and Arab states.

"Israel will participate," Mr. Peres said. "There will be many Arab countries participating and it will be an unprecedented thing."

Mr. Peres also briefed King Hassan on the accomplishments of the Middle East peace process, MAP said.

King Hassan "reaffirmed that Morocco will continue to work untiringly for a just and

equitable peace in the region," MAP reported, quoting the Moroccan Information Ministry.

The Moroccan monarch played an important role in contacts leading to the 1979 peace treaty between Israel and Egypt and has served as an intermediary in the current peace process. He is known to have met with Israeli leaders on several occasions.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin flew to Morocco last September after signing the peace accord with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Washington. That drove speculation that the two sides would open diplomatic ties.

Newspapers said Mr. Peres flew to Rabat from Madrid on an executive jet sent by King Hassan. The Israeli leader was in Europe on a stopover from a visit to Latin America.

## War casts pall over Aden's majestic cape

By William Maclean  
Reuter

ADEN — An hour or so by car from the front lines of Yemen's civil war, sunbathers loll on a fine sandy beach and children play in the surf of a sparkling blue sea.

Under Cape Aden's majestic Mount Shamsan, youngsters kick a soccer ball by a hotel that with only modest investment could enter the luxury class.

The contrasts of Yemen's civil war are testimony to the political instability that has blighted the potential of a city struggling to escape from decades of cold war underdevelopment.

"Aden is beautiful, just look at that," a businessman said, motioning to Shamsan's 600-metre craggy heights and palm-lined beachfronts at a leisure resort.

"Why do the northerners want to destroy our city?"

The port city, today mostly a crumbling collection of austere concrete tenements, has long dreamt of a brilliant future as a southern Arabian economic hub and tourist paradise.

Aden has been designated

the capital of the breakaway "Democratic Republic of Yemen" declared on May 21 by southern leaders fighting a military assault by northern rebels.

Tourist potential comes from its scenery, climate and beaches, similar those of the Aegean's volcanic islands, and more liberal and outward-looking attitudes than most of Arabia.

Political instability has set back Aden's prospects before. In 1986, thousands of people were killed in the city in conflict within the Yemen Socialist Party, then the ruling party of pre-union Marxist South Yemen.

Southern Yemenis saw their 1990 union with the north as their chance to break out of the isolation caused by the collapse of cold war ally Soviet Union.

They sought to rebuild an economy hamstrung by years of doctrinaire socialism and provide a productive partnership with the north, which has four times the population and an economy five times as big.

But southerners found themselves the junior partner in the union and after years of controlled prices found it

difficult to adjust to the free market ways of the north.

But the month-old war with their more prosperous opponents has been a catastrophe for the fledgling redevelopment that had started in the largest of any city in the world with more than 200,000 transit passengers and tourists visiting every year.

Aden used to be one of the busiest oil-bunkering port in the world, handling 550 ships a month.

Now the sound of shelling on three main fronts less than 100 kilometres away echoes around the city and the peaks of industrial little Aden across a bay to the west.

Water and electricity provided from installations in the hinterland are still running and inhabitants can watch different accounts of the war on Aden Television, which supplements its news with replays of news programmes from other Arab states.

Shells slam into pristine beaches on the coast northeast of the city where rolling surf washes up on what would be prime beachfront sites for hotel developers in time of peace.

But for the moment — and perhaps for a long time — the windsurfers, sunbathers and fun seekers will go elsewhere.

After union with the north

Yemen's high temperatures: Amman 26, Aqaba 33. Humidity readings: Amman 28 per cent, Aqaba 25 per cent.

## GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AFP)

— Israel is prepared to release all the Palestinian prisoners in return for the bodies of three Israeli soldiers killed in the 1982 invasion of Lebanon, a Palestinian authority spokesman says.

About 200 members of the Palestine Liberation Army were meanwhile left Tunis late Friday for Gaza on board a special flight, Palestinian sources said. They are due to join the new Palestinian police.

It was the first large contingent of Palestinian exiles based in Tunis to return to the territories vacated by Israel to be placed under Palestinian self-rule.

The 158 who are officially part of the Palestine Liberation Army, the PLO's military arm, were mainly officials who had served for the last few years in the PLO's various civilian departments.

Some who had never worn a uniform seemed ill at ease in the green military fatigues offered by the Tunisian authorities.

The group included six Palestinian journalists, some of whom will man the first bureau in Gaza of the Palestinian news agency WAFA. Others will join the Palestinian television service now under construction.

The contingent left for Cairo on a Tunisian aircraft chartered by Saudi Arabia. The group will travel by bus from Cairo to the border and will cross over into Gaza at Rafah on Sunday.

# Home News

## Government forms panel to decide on pay raises

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government has formed a committee to decide on raising civil servants' salaries. Minister of Information Jawad Anani, declared yesterday.

In a wide ranging press conference Mr. Anani held after a Cabinet session that was chaired by His Majesty King Hussein, the minister said the

King had instructed the Cabinet to improve the working of the government bureaucracy and create an efficient climate for healthy investment.

News reports in the daily press yesterday said the government of Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali was about to approve a five per cent

increase on the basic salaries of civil servants and adjustment to cost of living allowances. The report said senior government officials would benefit from a 35 per cent increase in salaries.

Civil servants last received a JD 15-20 raise in 1993. The average salary in government departments is JD 130 a month.

AMMAN — A few days after they were criticised for their "bias" coverage of the civil war in Yemen, Jordan's official media have stopped referring to forces of southern Yemeni leader Ali Salem Al Beidh as "secessionists."

While they are still calling loyalists of Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh the "government forces," the media are now covering the activities and statements of the South Yemeni forces as those of the Yemeni Socialist Party.

The media were last week

severely criticised by a group of journalists and writers for their "biased coverage" of the five-week civil war in Yemen pitting the forces of Mr. Saleh against those of Mr. Beidh amidst little chance for a decisive military victory for either side.

In a letter to Minister of Information Jawad Al Anani, the group urged a review of the media's policy in covering the Yemeni conflict, defending the media's reference to the warring parties as "government" and "secessionists" as factual statements because Aden seceded from the Yemeni republic.

Many, however, questioned this argument, emphasising

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"We should encourage the spirit of unity and invite the southerners to maintain it but we should be careful not to antagonise the south," said the analyst, who demanded anonymity.

## Media switch references to warring Yemeni forces

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A few days after they were criticised for their "bias" coverage of the civil war in Yemen, Jordan's official media have stopped referring to forces of southern Yemeni leader Ali Salem Al Beidh as "secessionists."

While they are still calling loyalists of Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh the "government forces," the media are now covering the activities and statements of the South Yemeni forces as those of the Yemeni Socialist Party.

The media were last week

severely criticised by a group of journalists and writers for their "biased coverage" of the five-week civil war in Yemen pitting the forces of Mr. Saleh against those of Mr. Beidh amidst little chance for a decisive military victory for either side.

In a letter to Minister of Information Jawad Al Anani, the group urged a review of the media's policy in covering the Yemeni conflict, defending the media's reference to the warring parties as "government" and "secessionists" as factual statements because Aden seceded from the Yemeni republic.

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## U.N., Japanese specialists expected to assist in environmental projects

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A team from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is due here this month to follow up on details concerning the proposed green belt project to stem desertification on the eastern fringes of Jordan, according to Dr. Sharieh.

Another UNEP team is also

expected here this month to examine the department's detailed study on a biodiversity programme concerning the various living creatures and plants in the Kingdom.

It is hoped that UNEP will provide Jordan with financial assistance to help in the process of preserving endangered species and those threatened with extinction, Dr. Sharieh added.

He also announced that a team from JICA (Japan Inter-

national Cooperation Agency) will arrive here this month to study a department plan designed to organise the process of garbage disposal in the country.

"We have prepared a plan for organising the process of garbage disposal in various regions, and we were promised some \$8 million in a grant from JICA to help implement the project over two years," said Dr. Sharieh.

According to the department, its officials continually monitor the situation in and around the 21 main garbage dumps in Jordan and the functioning of the waste water treatment plants, as well as conduct studies on means of combating industrial and agricultural pollution.

The UNEP has promised us nearly \$6.5 million to help Jordan carry out the green belt project, for which the department has prepared detailed studies," Dr. Sharieh told the Jordan Times Saturday.

According to the plan, a

five-kilometre-wide green belt of trees, shrubs and other vegetation will be set up along a 330-kilometre stretch from the north to the south of Jordan, in order to stem the encroachment of desert land westwards, said Dr. Sharieh.

Another UNEP team is also

expected here this month to examine the department's detailed study on a biodiversity programme concerning the various living creatures and plants in the Kingdom.

It is hoped that UNEP will

provide the assistance in the form of expertise and equipment required for the project.

Dr. Sharieh, who was speaking on the eve of World Environment Day, said that his department was keen on the implementation of the Nation-

## Course opens on water quality monitoring

## Ministry prepares regulations to ensure safe water

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Health Ministry is preparing new water quality and water resources regulations to ensure safe potable water for domestic use, including the intensive measures started Saturday to monitor the water quality of water-takers, according to Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas.

Addressing the opening session of a two-week seminar entitled "Regional Training Course on Global Environmental Monitoring Systems for Water Quality," which opened in Amman Saturday, Dr. Malhas complained that all the available water resources in Jordan are continually exposed to some degree of pollution, particularly through industrial and agricultural activities.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) is organising the seminar at the WHO-affiliated

Centre for Environmental Health Activities (CEHA) with the participation of specialists from nine different countries including Jordan, according to a CEHA official.

The participants are discussing issues related to water quality and monitoring and controlling water resources through continual laboratory testing and the continued control of underground water resources, said the official.

Jordan, like many countries in the Middle East, suffers from scarce water resources which are needed for socio-economic development; and like the other countries, Jordan is facing a growing demand for water as a result of population growth and expansion in economic and industrial projects, said Dr. Malhas in his keynote address.

Representatives of United Nations organisations operating in Jordan and concerned government ministries attended the opening session.

WHO for organising the seminar in Amman, the minister stressed that the Health Ministry continues to take every precautionary measure to ensure the protection of the meagre water resources in the Kingdom.

In his message to the meeting, Hussein Jazairi, WHO regional director, drew the audience's attention to the need to end unorthodox agricultural practices, which entail excessive use of chemical substances and pesticides, because, he said, they tend to pollute the underground water resources and increase water salinity levels.

Also, the rapid population growth in the countries of the region has led to a retreat in the level of water quality in rivers, lakes, dams and aquifers, creating a genuine chal-

lenge to people living in this region, said Dr. Jazairi in his message, read on his behalf by Mohammad Sheikh, CEHA director in Amman.

Several working papers to be reviewed at the meeting, including two from Jordan, deal with water quality guarantees for good quality water for domestic use, treatment of saline water found underground and recycling of treated water, among other topics.

According to the CEHA official, the participants will visit the reservoir behind the King Talal Dam, the largest dam in the Kingdom, and conduct several biological tests on its water, as well as inspect the water areas in the Zarqa basin.

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Performers.

They graduated from Ox-

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servatory — Noor Al Hussein

Foundation who are present-

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Just reading the program-

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Sunday's concert would make

any music lover eager to be

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A Hungarian dance by Brahms, a sonata by J-S Bach, another by Glinka, a romance by Schumann and "Divisions on Greensleeves," an anonymous but famous 16th century tune.

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## Jordan Times

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## Raid against peace

BY RENEWING massive attacks against Hezbollah bases in Lebanon, Israel may be attempting to put pressure on the Syrians, but it is endangering the whole peace effort in the process. Targetting Hezbollah fighters will not strengthen Syria's hand in its pursuit of peace; rather, the attacks will give ammunition to hardliners not only in Syria and Lebanon, but also in the Palestinian camp and in the Arab World in general, to press the armed struggle against Israel. By revoking the so-called Katyusha truce with Hezbollah and by massacring its fighters, the Israelis risk an escalation in South Lebanon that will only make the prospect of Syria relenting to American and international pressures ever weaker.

Israel might want to remind Syria and the Arab and Muslim worlds that its army can settle on the ground what its policies cannot attain in the corridors of diplomacy. But that also will be a reminder to the Arabs and Muslims that whether in war or in peace, or in between as the case is, Israel's ultimate answer will always be its brutal and bloody use of formidable force.

For one thing, Lebanon, a country that had to take the brunt of so many scars in the last 20 years, should not and need not be used in the regional struggle for supremacy whether between Israel and Syria or between Israel and Iran. The Lebanese have endured 15 years of civil war fought on behalf of all the powers, big and small, regional and international. The country is trying to rise from the ashes of a bloody war that left hundreds of thousands dead and most of the country in ruins.

The latest attack against Lebanon, in which up to 50 people and dozens more were injured, can hardly be seen to go along with the Israeli leadership's commitment to peace. Like the Palestinian people, the Lebanese can only look at Israel as an occupying power leaving them just one choice: to sympathise with the resistance fighters of Hezbollah.

Now that Hezbollah has threatened to avenge the Israeli massacre and Israel moving troops into South Lebanon, the conflict can only escalate and could draw Syria and other regional powers into the fray. It could even torpedo whatever progress that has been achieved on the Palestinian-Israeli front. Whether Israel has been supported in its actions by the U.S. or not, Syria cannot be expected to give in to the threat of Israeli guns. Damascus and Beirut, on the other hand, will themselves want to restrain Hezbollah if and when Israel implements U.N. Security Council Resolution 425 and pulls out of South Lebanon.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

HAD THE attackers on the Hezbollah base in eastern Lebanon been other than Israelis, the Western nations would have raised the hue and cry over the matter and would have demanded an international action, said Al Ra'i daily Saturday. But unfortunately, the perpetrators of this crime against the Arab youths have escaped even words of condemnation on the part of the world community in general and the U.S.-Western alliance in particular, said the paper. The raid on the base, which followed the kidnapping of a Hezbollah leader, reflects the Zionists' lust for blood and proves that the Jewish state continues to hold on to its evil nature, added the paper. The raid and the kidnapping, continued the daily, is a proof of Israel's disregard for the peace process and its desire to keep its northern neighbour continually embroiled in internal strife.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Saturday called attention to the danger facing motorists on the road leading to the Traffic and Vehicles Licensing Department, demanding that traffic police be assigned to that highway to ensure the safety of the people. Nazih said that many travellers on that road are just learning to drive and they are confronted by a flood of traffic along the Amman-Zarqa highway, which they have to cross in order to reach their destination. The writer said that there is no control over the traffic situation in that area. Any delay in taking the necessary measures to reduce the risk of further accidents on that road is bound to cost the country more innocent lives and a great deal of material losses.

## Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fawek

## Why the economic slowdown?

OPTIMISM AND pessimism are both deviations from reality, one direction or another. The actual outcome of events is not supposed to be influenced by optimistic or pessimistic expectations. However, in the economic field in particular, optimism and pessimism are self-fulfilling prophecies. Optimism, on one hand, leads to more investments and higher economic activity in expectation of prosperity and profitability. Pessimism, on the other hand, causes contraction and may lead to freezing or postponement of planned economic activities in expectation of slowdown, recession and losses.

Some of our Jordanian citizens are addicted to pessimism under all circumstances, especially in an environment of uncertainty, as the case is now, in the current liquid and transitional situation. I would rather leave those addicted citizens to enjoy their addiction, and to expect the worse as they may please. They may be left to cry in advance in anticipation of the coming disasters which are the sheer creation of their own unfounded fears. But leaving pessimism to take its course, and the spread of pessimism may realise itself, unless faced by the facts.

As an example, they claim that Jordan is currently suffering from a severe trade slowdown which may get deeper with time. I hope this is true, because it means lower level of consumption, less imports, saving foreign exchange, reduction in the trade deficit and consequently reduction in the deficit of the balance of payments. However, official statistics indicate that the volume of imports during January 1994 was a solid 14 per cent larger than the same month of 1993. Exports, on the other hand, showed a phenomenal growth of over 30 per cent. This is by no means an indicator of recession. The number of

shopkeepers in the quarters of Amman and Zarqa may have doubled during the past two years, therefore the sales of each shop may have dropped, but this is not an indication that the country, as a whole, have less trade. There is definitely a bad choice of economic activity by many people, who settled for an easy job that suits lazy individuals who prefer to open a shop in Amman or grow tomato in the Jordan Valley.

They also complain that the prices of shares in Amman stock exchange are in decline. This is true. The share price index lost 5 per cent in the first five months of 1994. But the prices in all financial markets witness ups and downs. If prices continue to rise, they will reach unrealistic high levels. The current decline is quite moderate, it is the result of negative expectations which led to more sell-orders which naturally led to lower prices. The mediocre speculators are simply taking the wrong position and thus inflicting losses on themselves and punishing themselves in the process, but there is absolutely nothing serious in the economy that justifies such negative expectations. If anything, some Jordanian companies will soon have a lucrative market in the West Bank, but that must be a reason for their share prices to rise.

As far as the impending peace is concerned, the economic experts all over the world expect prosperity in the Middle East. Only our own so-called-experts tend to expect the worse if we have war, or peace or no war and no peace.

The real or perceived slowdown in certain sectors of the Jordanian economy was caused by the pessimists, but this gives the optimists a valuable opportunity to acquire what they want at reduced prices.

M. KAHIL



## The shattering of an illusion

### Afghanistan no longer inspires a salient model for Islamic revolution

By Grant M. Farr

IN LATE April a United Nations' Peace Mission visited the various actions now fighting in Kabul in the hope of finding a formula that would bring peace to Afghanistan. Its chances seem slim as the fighting in Kabul for the control of Afghanistan has intensified since December, resulting in thousands killed, over a quarter of a million displaced and homeless, the city in ruins and no peace in sight. What was once a Muslim "jihad" has degenerated into a sectarian conflict almost along ethnic lines, with the Pashtuns, led by Prime Minister Hekmatyar, uniting with the Uzbeks, led by General Dostum, to fight the Tajiks of President Rabbani and Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Massoud, with the Shiite militia waiting on the sidelines.

The Afghan war of resistance came to take on an Islamic appearance with the Islamic parties controlling the access to arms and supplies, and assuming leadership positions among the Mujahideen as the war progressed. However, early in the war, in the late 1970s and the early 1980s, there were many resistance groups in addition to the Islamist parties competing for leadership of the resistance and for international support. These included groups with various leftist orientations, as well as several groups representing ethnic or sectarian political ambitions. The Islamic groups gained hegemony over the resistance because of the decision by Pakistan to recognise only six, eventually seven, groups of an Islamic nature: those with orientations consistent with the views of the government of Pakistan at that time. Of these six groups, three were "traditionalist" and three fundamentalist. These six groups did not necessarily represent the best or strongest political options, nor were they selected because they had the best leaders or the proven support of the Afghan people.

At times, early in the resistance war, Western observers underestimated the ability of the Islamic parties to provide inspiration, motivation and organisation to the guerrilla war of resistance against the Communist government and the Soviet occupation. Yet Western analysts also overestimated the ability of the Mujahideen to forge a political consensus in Afghanistan and to draw support from the Afghan population. This faulty analysis was, in part, because Western scholars failed to understand what motivated

resistance was mostly a local affair, in which local people fought, or fled, because of local concerns and grievances. The first rebellion against the government of Nur Mohammad Taraki took place in June 1978 before the advent of the governmental reform programmes and at a time when the Marxist nature of the new regime uncertain. It cannot be argued, therefore, that the uprising was in the beginning motivated by anti-Marxist or fundamentalist sentiment.

Therefore, while it is true that an Islamic ideology eventually became dominant in the resistance movement, the resistance grew out of local concerns. As a result, as the war progressed, there were growing tensions between the official Islamic groups in Peshawar and the commanders in the field in Afghanistan, who saw the war quite differently and had different goals. These differences are now making the development of a unified government elusive. Rather than unite the country, as many had hoped, an Islamic face papered over regional, tribal and ethnic differences that were always there just below the surface.

Finally, there is little that is "Islamic" in the actions or proposals of the present government in Kabul, except for a general idea that the country should be governed by Shari'a. Most proposals for resolving the present impasse call for the return to tribal custom by holding a Loya Jirga (a grand tribal assembly), or for internationally sanctioned elections to create a national assembly to write a constitution.

**Impact on regional stability**

The Afghan situation will remain highly unstable for some time to come. Many Afghans now seek an alternative, although it is not clear what that might be. Calls for the return of the king or Afghan leaders from pre-

## LETTERS

### Peace in the making

WHILE STUDYING Arabic at Brigham Young University's Centre for Near-Eastern Studies on Mount Scopus in Jerusalem during the intifada, I watched as Israeli soldiers would occasionally round up Palestinian teenagers from the village below our centre in order to have them remove Palestinian flags from telephone wires or put out fires that were blocking access to roads. It was frustrating to witness the constant tension that prevailed in these and other situations. Israeli soldiers were wary of Americans speaking Arabic whenever we would encounter them at checkpoints entering the West Bank or elsewhere in our travels, and many Palestinians were suspicious of our motivations for learning their language and attempting to befriend them, as well. Of course, it was inevitable that we would make friends, and we did. But it was always easier for us to feel the hurt and understand the pain of the Arabs, whose culture we had studied and with whom we could communicate in their own language.

I left Jerusalem in the summer of 1989 with the general impression that people were ready for peace. From the many discussions I had had with both Israelis and Palestinians, I sensed that longstanding animosities between Arab and Jew had been put aside in most of their minds. But I was pessimistic about peace. I did not believe that the status quo would give in easily to the change that so many so obviously hungered for.

Recently, I returned to Jerusalem for the first time in five years. As we passed through Jericho en route, I was gratified to see dozens of red, white, green and black flags fluttering in the breeze throughout the picturesque village. "Last week South Africa, this week Jericho" read a sign hanging from the municipality. And written in bright red Arabic script on the side of a stone wall, blotting out the graffiti and the political messages were the following words: "Palestinian Policemen, Welcome to Jericho!" All along the road into town, people sat in groups, hoping to have an opportunity to greet the first contingent of Palestinian policemen who were scheduled to cross the bridge into Jericho later that day. A small truck passed back and forth along the route, Palestinian flags proudly displayed from the top of the cab. We stopped in front of the first store we came to after entering town and asked a group of men sitting outside how they felt about what was happening. "In the seven years since the outbreak of the Intifada, not once have we had any problems here in Jericho," said one in a gruff voice. "So what do we need policemen for? They're not for us. They're to placate the Israelis." The others heartily agreed, but I could detect a nervous excitement in their eyes and in their animated chatter.

Others were less able or less willing to hide their anticipation. A taxi driver told us he had 10 children whose future looked just a little more secure today. Another assured us that this was a great day for Jericho. And one look into the faces of passers-by was enough to convince me that most of the inhabitants felt the same way.

Three days later, as we passed through again on our way back to Jordan, we watched hordes of ecstatic people crowd around uniformed men, eager to become acquainted with these exiles who had returned to serve their homeland. I was slightly nervous to observe one of these policemen swaggering around with his Kalashnikov hanging from his arm with what I assumed to be a live ammunition clip inserted into the hold. But it occurred to me that self-rule would not come without incident. Mistakes will be made and hard lessons will be learned. But nothing of any consequence ever happens unless one is willing to take risks. Both Palestinians and Israelis know that a change is badly needed. I only hope they will recognise the necessity of taking full advantage of the current situation in order to bring about that change.

In a recent interview with Newsweek, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin stated that the abandonment of the settlements is not and will not become a matter for negotiation. "We don't owe the Palestinians anything," he said. "They continue to commit terrorist acts." He further stated that Gaza-Jericho would not lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state. Meanwhile, a Hamas official stated his intention to boycott all Palestinian National Authority (PNA) elections in order to avoid being associated with the current experiment so that when it failed he could continue with the armed struggle which is, in his mind, the only ultimate solution to the problem of the Israeli occupation. These are exactly the kinds of responses that will make this experiment fail. I can only hope that concerned individuals will ignore this inconsequential muckraking and take a lesson from Nelson Mandela, who has reached out to his former enemies (including his estranged wife) in the spirit of cooperation for the good of all of South Africa.

I know that opinions vary as to the significance of what has transpired in Gaza and Jericho, but I am confident that the tide has turned and that peace and prosperity are in store for the region if its people will only trust each other and work together to make it happen.

David Harris,  
Amman

## Water crisis

To the Editor:

IT DOES not seem that the water problem has soaked enough into the national psyche. The more I see Amman's growth unchecked and construction mushrooming by leaps and bounds, the more I realise that the water crisis in the capital is reaching ominous proportions. I don't know about others, but water is no longer being supplied to my house even on once a week basis and when it comes it is so weak it cannot reach the roof cisterns. So what are the government and Amman Municipality waiting for? The population of the Amman area is already in the vicinity of one million at a time when the water resources available to it can accommodate only half that number. Yet more and more people keep on pouring into the city and construction goes on as if the metropolis sits on a huge water well. It is so embarrassing that at a time when the water shortage by tapping rain water during the rainy season, residents do not bother to do the same as if no one really cares what will happen next. I put the blame squarely with the authorities who have no effective campaign to save water and collect rain water in winter.

Is it too much to ask that no construction licences be issued before first making sure that facilities are provided to collect rain water? And what about having gardens planted with plants that need lesser amounts of water instead of choosing the kind that require infinite amounts of watering? The list is indeed long on what we as people and government can do but no one is doing them. Shall we wait for the day when there is doom in Amman over the water situation before we act? I see that doom coming as clear as I see the dry spells at my home.

Mrs. Aysegul Sa'di,  
Amman

**Dr. Farr is director of the Middle East Studies Centre, Portland State University. The article is reprinted from Middle East International.**

# News

## King deplores lack of coordination

(Continued from page 1)

Asked to comment on the border issue in the negotiations with Israel, the King said: "I believe this should be discussed because questions related to Jordanian interests," Dr. Anan added. "But we will not take any step in haste."

The King voiced appreciation to the prime minister and Cabinet members for their continued efforts.

He said he reviewed with the Council of Ministers the general situation in the region and the expected developments.

"I stressed the need for unity and cohesion among the members of the Jordanian family regardless of their origin and for everyone to be vigilant and study all events so as to draw lessons and conclusions and embark on effective measures that would guarantee the future of this country, its steadfastness and firm stand and help us to continue providing support for the brothers in Palestine and their rights in their national soil."

## Arafat demands release of funds

(Continued from page 1)

administration which stopped paying their wages on May 31.

The United States, the European Union and Japan, among others, have pledged \$613 million to help fund Palestinian self-rule this year.

Dr. Shaath said so far Norway had already handed over \$4.2 million to police chiefs enough to pay two months salaries to the 3,500 Palestinian police now deployed in the autonomous Gaza Strip and Jericho areas.

The head of the new Palestinian police force, Nasser Yousef, has said that the police had no budget and were borrowing money to pay the bills.

Dr. Shaath warned the annual wages bill would be more than \$42 million for the future 9,000-strong force, while a total \$160 million was needed to set up and run the force in its first year.

The World Bank has estimated the annual running costs at \$90 million.

Meanwhile the police began to receive their first pay packets for the month of May on Friday and Saturday, Palestinian sources said.

Wages vary between \$450 for the lowest ranks up to \$1,200 a month for a senior officer.

On Thursday, Abdul Aziz Al Haj Ahmad, who has been named transport minister in the yet-to-be-installed Palestinian self-rule authority, said the PLO has money to pay the policy of believing he was "entitled" to the money.

"He must also learn that the world is built on mutual relations. You give, you take. Nobody is entitled to manna from heaven."

Mr. Peres urged Mr. Arafat to act swiftly to secure international funds.

"The truth is, we're about to miss the season," Mr. Peres told Israeli armed forces radio.

"The world is big, it doesn't revolve around us. There are many other places in the world crying out for help and aid. This is one of the reasons why we must act faster."

"There is still a lot of goodwill around us. It will not last forever," Mr. Peres said.

## Hebron curfew

(Continued from page 1)

seven soldiers who bled his face and damaged his video camera.

Israel radio said the cameraman, a member of the Peace Now group, filed a complaint with the Hebron police.

Hebron, a city of 110,000 Palestinians and 450 Jewish settlers, has been tense since the Feb. 25 mosque massacre in which Jewish settler Baruch Goldstein shot and killed more than 30 worshippers.

Earlier this week, Israeli troops shot and wounded seven Palestinians when some 100 Palestinians attacked them with stones in Ramallah. The clashes on Wednesday followed the execution-style killing by Israeli secret police of a Palestinian double agent.

Israeli soldiers arrested eight Palestinians on Saturday near the Jewish settlement of Netzarim in the autonomous Gaza Strip, Palestinian sources said.

Seven of the eight arrested after a stone-throwing incident were released after Palestinian police intervened, the sources said.

But the Palestinian Authority's "justice minister" Freith Abu Middan, condemned the army for detaining the eighth man.

He said: "They do not have the right to arrest anyone in this enclave and they should hand back the prisoner."

The arrests were made after Palestinians travelling on a bus from Gaza City to the Nuseirat refugee camp began throwing stones at a military patrol close to the Netzarim settlement.

Soldiers boarded the bus and checked identity papers before arresting eight passengers and questioning them.

Protesting Palestinians threw stones at soldiers as the eighth man, Maisara Dukhan, accused of belonging to the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas, was taken to the Israeli border post Nahal Oz.

## Jordan, Israel start border talks tomorrow

(Continued from page 1)

the necessary steps related to peace that will allow it to keep the initiative on issues related to Jordanian interests," Dr. Anan added. "But we will not take any step in haste."

Dr. Anan reiterated Jordan's commitment to the principle of comprehensive Middle East peace but that did not mean it would not implement certain agreements it reaches with Israel before signing a full peace agreement. Jordan would continue to coordinate peace policies with other Arabs, he added.

Dr. Anan also spoke in some detail about the issues discussed by the Cabinet on Saturday.

The King's main message to the Cabinet was strengthening the internal front and improving the performance of various sectors and reducing bureaucracy that has been hindering private sector investments, he said.

The King stressed that all Jordanians, regardless of their origin, have equal rights and duties and that the Jordanian front should remain integrated and solid stressing that pluralism should be a source of strength, Dr. Anan said.

In the present critical stage Jordan should basically depend on its own resources and its strength lest there would be any weakness in the national front, the minister quoted the King as saying at the meeting.

According to Dr. Anan, the King said that the present stage is critical, requiring careful decisions "because we must reconcile between what is happening around us and what our aspirations are."

"We must not abandon our principled stands, but this does not mean we remain rigid," the minister said.

"We discussed the ongoing peace process, which is taking a new trend," he said, adding that the Kingdom could not

remain lagging behind other tracks but without showing any rashness which could lead to undesirable results.

"The King told the Cabinet that while Jordan does not approve of rash actions it would also not accept a situation whereby delays in progress along the other tracks would create pressures on Jordan or accept to be marginalized in the peace process," Dr. Anan said.

Therefore, he said, Jordan would be taking steps that would enable it to assume the initiative with regard to Jordanian affairs.

The main issues of concern to Jordan in the peace talks are the borders and the restoration of the occupied Jordanian territory in accordance with the 1929 demarcation lines, he said.

"In the event agreement has been achieved, the Israelis should agree to returning the territory and the formation of a committee of experts to define the borders according to the 1929 mandate accord," he said.

"We are also demanding our rights in water resources regardless of Israeli statements that the water anyway is not sufficient and attention should rather be turned towards tapping new resources," he said.

"Jordan believes that both matters are of significance and that the work of the bilateral committees on water and energy and the environment should be continued so that we can take steps towards regaining our full rights," the minister said.

"If Israel expresses readiness and willingness to return the Jordanian lands and waters at the Washington meeting... then there should be some arrangement to shift the negotiations to the region here so that we can be close to taking decisions and so that the com-

mittees could meet on the site to be able to define exactly the land and water rights due to Jordan," he said.

"We believe in a comprehensive solution which is not a mere slogan but a reality, and practical steps that should be taken on the ground. We wish to see continuous progress along the Syrian-Israeli track since the Golan is clearly Syrian territory that should be fully returned to Syrian sovereignty," Dr. Anan said.

The timetable being discussed for Israel's withdrawal from the Golan in return for Syrian measures are viewed by Jordan as sufficient to transform the peace process into reality, he said.

"We also support moves towards restoring Lebanon's sovereignty over all its territories," he said.

Referring to the Palestinian track, he said, progress was achieved and Jordan is trying to coordinate with the Palestinians. "Yet, we believe that the Arab parties should coordinate among themselves before agreeing with the other side and that is what we had always aimed at achieving," he said.

Jordan, he added, "cannot leave matters as they are and allow itself to be lagging behind because this would paralyse its movement towards the achievement of Arab objectives."

"All our actions would not be taken rashly but in good time and Jordan should keep its stand clear because without Jordan no peace can be achieved in the region," he added.

In reply to a question about the civil war in Yemen, the minister said that Jordan recognised Yemeni legitimacy in accordance with the reconciliation agreement signed by all parties in Amman on Feb. 20.

## Queen Mother remembered

(Continued from page 1)

under the leadership of the late King Abdullah Ben Al Hussein.

The Queen Mother played a major role in the political development of the Kingdom in the early 1950s, in the writing of the 1952 Constitution that gave full rights to women and in social development in the country, and in 1944 she led the creation of the first women's union in Jordan.

Queen Zein filled a constitutional vacuum after the assassination of King Abdullah in 1951 while the newly proclaimed King Talal was being treated outside the Kingdom and later in the period between August 1952 when King Hus-

sein was proclaimed monarch and in 1953 when he assumed his constitutional duties at the age of 18, during which a regency council was entrusted to run the affairs of the state.

The late Queen Mother was a symbol of motherhood and children and country.

She was also instrumental in establishing the branch of the Jordan Red Crescent Society and dedicated time and the Um Al Hussein O.

age in Amman.

Queen Zein also contributed much to social and community services in Jordan and gave particular attention to the nation's charities and voluntary August 1952 when King Hus-

## Assad: Israel building tensic

(Continued from page 1)

efforts to calm down atmosphere" and press stalled Middle East peace process being further.

In the latest conflict, Hezbollah guerrillas were killed as they tried to mount a night-time raid in the central sector of the Israeli-occupied "security zone."

Security sources said the South Lebanon Army, Israel's surrogate militia, detected the infiltrators in the Rihan mountain region late Friday night and shelled the area with cannon fire from T-55 tanks, killing three men.

The U.S. ambassador in Beirut, Mark Hambley, said the United States was in contact with the Lebanese, Syrian and Israeli governments to contain the situation.

After a meeting Friday with Elias Hrawi, Mr. Hambley called for "conc-

## Clinton: N. Korea sanctions certain

(Continued from page 1)

sing that the matter could only be resolved through direct North Korea-U.S. negotiations.

"Although the United States is talking with other countries, it is refusing to sit down with us," Mr. Clinton said.

"So we have no opportunity to have discussions for resolving the nuclear issue."

Direct bilateral talks with Washington are the only path to Pyongyang's acceptance of full International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections of its nuclear facilities and a reaffirmation of its commitment to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), Mr. Clinton added.

North Korea "will survive economic sanctions and achieve victory in this struggle," Mr. Clinton said, reiterating that Pyongyang would regard the imposition of sanctions "as a declaration of war."

Mr. Clinton also slammed U.S. talks with South Korea and Japan over the nuclear crisis on the Korean Peninsula, stressing

## Southern Yemenis seek more fighters

(Continued from page 1)

sures," he said, without giving further details.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia urged North and South Yemen to implement the Security Council call for a ceasefire, referring for the first time to the country's separation.

"I consider that the current differences between the north and the south can happen anywhere in the world," the king said in an interview broadcast late Friday on the London-based Arabic television station MBC.

"If the north and the south accept U.N. Security Council Resolution 924, it will be a good initiative and one that should lead to a definitive halt to the fighting," he said.

Mr. Jifri was speaking just before Gulf Arab states met in Abha, southwest Saudi Arabia, to debate the Yemeni conflict.

"The truth is, we're about to miss the season," Mr. Peres told Israeli armed forces radio.

"We must also learn that the world is built on mutual relations. You give, you take. Nobody is entitled to manna from heaven."

Mr. Peres urged Mr. Arafat to act swiftly to secure international funds.

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ambassador to Saudi Arabia, in an interview with the Kuwaiti daily Al Siyassah.

Southern leaders declared independence on May 21, but no country has officially recognised the declaration which aims to end four years of unity between the former conservative North Yemen and the Marxist South.

It was possible the GCC would adopt a resolution calling on its six member countries — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — to recognise the breakaway Yemen Democratic Republic, Mr. Jifri added.

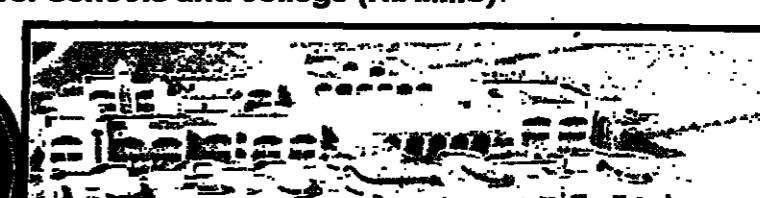
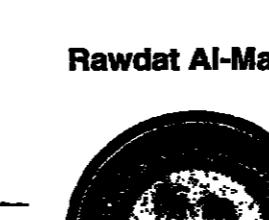
But a northern diplomat warned the war would drag on for 100 years if the south's "secession" was recognised by the Arab World or the international community.

"We will then be two countries and for decades we will devote ourselves to war, instead of development," said Ghaleb Ali Jamil, Yemen's

Sanaa maintains that the war is an internal Yemeni affair.

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# Economy

## Fahd says Saudi economy strong, vows to privatise

ABU DHABI (AFP) — King Fahd has insisted the Saudi economy was strong and pledged his government would press ahead with plans to privatise key government institutions.

"There have been a lot of harmful campaigns against Saudi Arabia's economy," he told the London-based MBC television, monitored here, in an interview broadcast late Friday.

"But thank God, our economy is still strong and we do not have major problems. We have and are still spending billions of dollars in subsidies to housing and farming and in loans and grants to Arabs and other countries," he emphasised.

King Fahd was referring to reports in the Washington Post and other newspapers last year saying that Saudi Arabia had serious economic problems.

The country has drained a large part of its overseas assets

and has been forced to borrow because of a decline in oil prices, according to the newspaper reports.

They were followed by a call from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for Riyadh to slash its budget deficit after it soared, reaching nearly eight per cent of the gross domestic product in 1993.

Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil producer and exporter, heeded the unprecedented call by slashing 1994 spending by nearly 19 per cent to \$42.6 billion from \$52.5 billion in 1993.

This cut the projected deficit to \$1.25 billion from \$7.4 billion in 1993.

"We have a debt but that does not mean we are suffering from problems. All countries in the world, from America to Europe and other areas, are indebted but their economy is strong," King Fahd said.

"We have cut expenditure because we want to adapt to the new situation. The infra-

structure has almost been completed and many projects have been set up while services have spread to all parts of the country," he added. "I have been informed by my oil minister that new oilfields have been discovered south of Riyadh and they contain high quality crude. As you see, Saudi Arabia is rich in many things...oil, gold, metals and others."

King Fahd confirmed plans to privatise some public institutions as part of economic reforms triggered by weak oil prices.

"We will sell some successful government projects to nationals. It is time for the citizens to participate in some projects, like telephone, water and electricity and other sectors," the monarch said.

"Such an experiment happened in many countries and it was fully successful. Our people have enough money and this move will ensure their funds will operate inside the kingdom," he pointed out.

Saudi Arabia had more than \$120 billion in overseas reserves during the oil boom of the early 1980s, but they are believed to have been more than halved due to withdrawals to finance the shortfall.

The problem exacerbated when the Saudis financed a large part of an allied campaign to oust Iraqi invasion forces from Kuwait in the 1991 Gulf war.

This pushed up spending to a 10-year high of \$69.6 billion in 1991 and created a record budget deficit of around \$30.8 billion.

War costs also forced Saudi Arabia to borrow on world markets for the first time.

Independent estimates put Saudi Arabia's debt at more than \$17 billion and the figure is expected to increase with new loans to finance a \$6 billion deal to buy Boeing aircraft.

Saudi Arabia produces around eight million barrels per day of crude, nearly 12 per cent of the total world supplies. Its oil reserves of around 260 billion barrels also account for a quarter of the world's

## ILO calls for Palestinian access to jobs in Israel

GENEVA (R) — The International Labour Organisation (ILO) said Saturday that the economic survival of the occupied Arab territories depended largely on 100,000 Palestinian workers being given access to jobs in Israel.

The U.N. agency, in a report prepared at the request of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, also urged Palestinian authorities to set up democratic institutions and allow free trade unions.

The 67-page plan of action, to be discussed at the ILO's annual meeting opening in Geneva Tuesday, offers 30 projects to create jobs, reduce poverty and strengthen social protection.

"Of paramount and immediate importance is the need to address the drastic economic situation of the territories," said the report by ILO Director-General Michel Hansen, obtained by Reuters ahead of the 171-member talks.

The situation had deteriorated further over the past year as a result of Israeli curfews and closures which prevented Palestinian workers from going to work, according to the ILO.

The ILO warned the situation could worsen if the Israeli government pursues its intention — "for security and other reasons" — to apply a policy that would reduce to a minimum the number of Palestinian workers permitted to work in Israel.

"The consequences of the strict application of such a policy for the economy of the territories, as well as for Israeli-Palestinian relations, would be extremely damaging, since the economic survival of the territories depends largely, at least in the immediate future, on access to jobs in Israel being accorded to some 100,000 Palestinian workers," it said.

"It is of the utmost importance, at least for the time being, to ensure access to the

Israeli labour market for tens of thousands, or better still, an unlimited number of Palestinian workers," the report added.

The average number of Palestinian workers in Israel declined to 84,000 last year or 27 per cent of all employed, down from about 115,000 or 36 per cent of the year before, meaning 1993 had the lowest proportion since 1971," according to the report.

But it said observers considered this figure to be an overestimate by Israeli authorities.

Preliminary data suggest 232,000 Palestinians were working within the occupied territories in 1993, not counting workers in East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements, it added.

ILO attributed this apparent 14 per cent rise in "domestic" employment largely to a massive drop in the number of Palestinians working in the Gulf and in Israel.

"Wage receipts from Israel are reported to have plummeted from an all-time high of \$930 million in 1992 to \$586 million in 1993," it added.

"There has been no such thing, however, as a sudden upsurge in the number of stable wage jobs providing a reasonable alternative to the ordeal of trying to work the green line," it said.

The ILO, set up in 1919 to promote social justice and workers' rights, urged Palestinian authorities to establish a "regulatory framework" for an effective system of relations between capital and labour.

"A heavy responsibility lies upon the trade unions of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, not only to secure the right to represent Palestinian workers who work in Israel, but more generally to develop their capacity effectively to play a constructive role in the building of a new society and participate in the creation of a viable economy," it said.

## OPEC chief sees more oil demand, higher prices

WASSENAAR, Netherlands (R) — OPEC's troubles should be over if it can keep its output steady until the end of the year, the oil producer group's secretary-general Subroto said Friday.

Western economic recovery and booming Far East markets are increasing oil demand so fast that OPEC will soon no longer need to worry about overproduction and prices should continue to rise, Dr. Subroto told Reuters in an interview.

"The problem of overproduction is no longer an issue because of the expected rise in demand. World oil demand will be about one million barrels per day higher next year than this," he said, adding that global oil consumption was currently around 40 million barrels per day (bd).

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has faced an almost continual struggle over the last decade to prevent its members' oil production from exceeding demand. Many member states desperately need to maximise their oil revenues and some have found it difficult to stick to the output quotas agreed at OPEC meetings.

Quota "cheating" and sluggish economic demand combined to push world oil prices down to five-year lows this spring when the benchmark North Sea Brent crude oil fell below \$13 a barrel. But oil prices have since recovered to over \$16 and Dr. Subroto said they would not collapse again.

"Oil prices fell sharply at the end of last year leaving OPEC's basket of crude oil around \$12.50 a barrel but it is now back up (to around \$15.85) and we do not expect this to happen again," Dr. Subroto said. "We expect a steady recovery in prices."

He said OPEC oil output was currently very close to the ceiling of 24.52 million b/d agreed for this year at the group's last meeting in March plus a further 300,000 or

400,000 b/d for Iraq.

"This means current production is around 24.8 million b/d," he said, adding that the figure was close to demand for the group's oil.

He saw no reason for OPEC to raise production this year. "Of course the OPEC meeting (in Vienna on June 13) could decide to raise production but we have (so far) agreed to keep production unchanged this year," Dr. Subroto said.

He said demand for OPEC oil would rise through the rest of the year and "could be about 26 million b/d" in the fourth quarter — an estimate recently made by the London-based Centre for Global Energy Studies, headed by ex-Saudi Arabian oil minister, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani.

It was important OPEC members gave oil prices a chance to respond to the higher demand and did not jump the gun and boost production ahead of the expected increase, Dr. Subroto said.

"We have already sent letters of reminder to OPEC members warning them that this has happened in the past," he pointed out.

But, provided OPEC output stayed level this year, it would soon not need to worry about overproduction.



Subroto

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## Taiwan ranks 5th in info industry

Taiwan produced some US\$10 billion worth of information industry products last year, ranking it the fifth in the world after the United States, Japan, the United Kingdom, and Singapore. The semi-official China External Trade Development Council predicted that the exports of Taiwan's information industry would keep growing by an estimated yearly rate of 15 per cent this year.

The total hardware output in computers and peripherals stood at US\$9.7 billion in 1993, plus information services worth US\$1.1 billion.

At present, Taiwan is touted as the world's No. 1 supplier in motherboards (83 per cent of world market share), computer mice (80 per cent), image scanners (55 per cent), monitors (51 per cent), and keyboards (49 per cent).

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## Rwanda rebels squeeze government

KIGALI (R) — Rebel forces squeezing Rwanda's interim government Saturday tightened the noose around the neck of its last southern holdouts and a rebel leader said one million people may have been killed in two months of carnage.

U.N. sources said the capital's bombed-out airport was shelled again overnight Friday. But relief planes were able to land Saturday and the evacuation of some 30 wounded children will go ahead as planned.

The young victims, many with severe injuries, will be flown to Nairobi and then on to Paris.

U.N. officials confirmed Friday the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) Thursday overran the village of Kabgayi and a camp where tens of thousands of refugees were trapped in fear of slaughter by government troops and militiamen.

Kabgayi is five kilometres south of the town of Gitarama, 40 kilometres southwest of Kigali, and the headquarters of the interim government which fled the capital shortly after civil war and massacres started on April 6.

"Personally I believe Gitarama is a higher priority for the RPF than Kigali, they RPF say they can take it any time they want, but we will see," said U.N. military spokesman Jean Guy Plante.

U.N. officers said rebels

seized Kabgayi after government forces slipped away towards Gitarama. Most of the interim government left the town last Saturday for the western city of Kibuye.

The government has denied organising the mass slaughter of Tutsis and Hutu opponents of President Juvenal Habyarimana, whose killing in a rocket attack on his plane unleashed the bloodletting.

On Friday, the RPF's Radio Muhubura quoted its chairman Alexis Kanyarengwe as saying nearly one million people had now perished in two months of civil war and tribal massacres.

He gave the figures at a news conference for Italian and Australian reporters at rebel headquarters in northern Mulindi.

"The RPF chairman condemned the Rwandan leaders for promoting the killings through their preaches, newspapers and government-controlled radios. He estimated the people who have been killed so far in a period of only two months to be close to one million," the English-language radio report said.

Aid workers in Rwanda say an estimated 500,000 people, many of them members of the Tutsi minority in Rwanda, have been killed in the bloodletting.

U.N. officers said rebels

seized Kabgayi after government forces slipped away towards Gitarama. Most of the interim government left the town last Saturday for the western city of Kibuye.

The former Roman Catholic seminary at Kabgayi was the site of a sprawling refugee camp where aid workers reported the massacre of 500 seized refugees almost every night and killed them.

U.N. officials said they had no word on the fate of the estimated 38,000 refugees at Kabgayi, many of them Tutsis who lived in conditions almost as bad as a concentration camp.

But they were divided over whether the RPF, anxious to avoid taking casualties, would risk a big battle to knock out the government seat or would step up the assault on Kigali.

They said they could not rule out an army counterattack.

The U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) demanded answers Friday from the RPF as to why its guerrillas fired on a U.N. convoy taking refugees towards Gitarama, forcing the operation to rescue civilians from Kigali to again be halted.

The RPF has captured two thirds of the country in eight weeks, forcing hundreds of thousands and perhaps millions of Hutus to flee the

southwest corner of the central African country.

Meanwhile, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has appealed for other aid agencies to come and help hundreds of thousands of people fleeing the rebel advance.

Philip Gayard, chief ICRC delegate in the country, said other aid agencies should try and set up in the main southern towns of Butare, Kabgayi and Gitarama.

"There must be hundreds of thousands maybe millions of people in the southwest of Rwanda who need everything — food, water, sanitation. They only have what they could carry," he said.

### Africa to offer troops

Meanwhile, a summit of 14 African states agreed Friday to offer troops for Rwanda and provide other aid to halt its civil strife that has killed 500,000 people, conference chairman Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe said.

Mugabe, interrupting a session of two-day economic talks by African leaders in Zimbabwe, said the 14 leaders had agreed a statement to be issued Friday night condemning the "genocide" in Rwanda and calling for an immediate end to hostilities and observance of a truce.

On neighbouring Bali, local officials were reported to be monitoring the possibility of tidal waves hitting the resort island's beaches.

More than 200 people were reported killed or missing in East Java Saturday, nearly 40 hours after up to 12 tidal waves pounded towns and villages following a big earthquake.

"We have recorded over 400 aftershocks. They could cause more tidal waves, although they would probably not be as big," an official of the Jakarta Geophysical Agency told Reuters.

"Also, there is a big possibil-



The bodies of earthquake and tidal wave victims scattered outside a community centre after an earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale triggered tidal waves in the East Java city of Banyuwangi (AFP photo)

## Mass aftershocks trigger fresh killer wave alert in Indonesia

JAKARTA (R) — More than 400 earthquake aftershocks have hit an already devastated area of East Java, triggering fears of more killer tidal waves.

On neighbouring Bali, local officials were reported to be monitoring the possibility of tidal waves hitting the resort island's beaches.

More than 200 people were reported killed or missing in East Java Saturday, nearly 40 hours after up to 12 tidal waves pounded towns and villages following a big earthquake.

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"Also, there is a big possibil-

ity that the tidal waves which struck East Java yesterday also hit Bali's beaches," a geophysical official, Djumadi, was quoted by Antara as saying.

Police and official media reports said at least 172 bodies had been found in East Java, while 47 people were missing.

At least 630 homes were destroyed in the initial quake and tidal waves, which struck when most people were sleeping. About 260 vessels, mainly fishing boats, were missing.

The killer waves pounded a remote and sparsely-populated area in the southeastern corner of Java. They followed a quake measuring 5.9 on the Richter Scale at 1.0 a.m. on Friday (1800 GMT Thursday). Its epicentre was beneath the Indian Ocean.

## Manila meeting recognises East Timor 'nation'

MANILA (R) — A conference on East Timor which angered Indonesia and embarrassed host nation the Philippines ended Saturday with a call for Indonesian forces to quit the island a resolution to quit the island an independent nation.

The first round in France ended without apparent progress on a proposal to give 51 per cent of East Timor to a Muslim-Croat Federation, with the rest going to the Serbs who now control 70 per cent.

Without delay and hold a free, fair referendum," Japanese Roman Catholic Aloisius Nobuo Soma told the closing session.

More than 200,000 Timorese are alleged to have died since Indonesia annexed the territory in 1976 as its 27th province. The United Nations has never recognised Jakarta's rule in the area.

The delegates broke into a standing ovation and chanted "free Xanana, free East Timor, Indonesia out now" after approving by acclamation 12 resolutions backing East Timor's struggle for independence.

Xanana refers to Xanana Gusmao, the top East Timorese resistance leader in jail in Indonesia.

The privately organised meeting had enraged Jakarta and forced Philippine President Fidel Ramos, worried at

losing \$700 million in potential Indonesian investments, to expel 10 foreign delegates, including Nobel Peace laureate Mairead Maguire, and blacklist 34 others.

Despite the ban, 51 foreign participants, mostly little known peace activists, managed to slip by immigration agents.

Organisers accused Indonesia of being an "Asian bully" and slammed Mr. Ramos for knuckling under to Jakarta's pressure.

Delegates applauded a Filipino delegate's resolution "recognising East Timor as an independent country separate from Indonesia."

Other resolutions urged the sending of a fact-finding mission to East Timor and called on aid donors Japan, Australia, New Zealand and South Korea "to press Indonesia to extricate itself from East Timor."

The privately organised meeting had enraged Jakarta and forced Philippine President Fidel Ramos, worried at

the trial is taking place in

## Romania court tries 1989 massacre case

BUCHAREST (R) — The trial of three Romanian officers blamed for the military massacre of some 50 people during the 1989 anti-Ceausescu revolt is taking place amid terror and death threats, survivors said.

As the "airport massacre trial" ended its first week, relatives of about 50 cadets, soldiers and airport staff shot dead in the bloodbath said they were receiving death threats and that they feared reprisals if the accused were convicted.

The three, who are at liberty, are on trial before the military section of Romania's Supreme Court, charged with murder and grievous wounding. They could get two to 10 years in jail if found guilty as charged.

In the first week the court

accused: Major-General Dumitru Draghin, former army commander at the airport, Major-General Grigore Chita, his former commander of secret police troops, and Captain Ionel Zorila, who led military forces in the area.

Survivors and relatives of the dead will give evidence next week. The prosecution file contains 4,000 pages of evidence.

"We were lucky to survive the massacre, but now we risk getting run over by a car," one survivor said while walking through the court building to find a safe place to talk to a Reuter correspondent. A stranger tagged close behind.

Survivors and relatives said that since inquiries started in 1990 they had received many telephoned death threats.

"This trial is taking place in

terror and fear," one said. "Some of the victims and relatives are so frightened that they think of withdrawing from the court case," one said.

Several unidentified men, mainly in their 40s, sat in the courtroom among the survivors and relatives of the victims, or stood in the corridors watching who was talking to who.

"These are all the spies of the three officers. They are watching very closely what we do and what we say," said one of the survivors. Like the others, he asked not to be named.

The trial concerns chaotic shooting at Bucharest Airport during the confused December 1989 revolution in which Stalinist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu was toppled and executed.

## Republicans fight each other in Virginia race

RICHMOND, VA (R) — Some 15,000 feuding Republican delegates cast their ballots Saturday for a two-day convention at which controversial Iran-contra scandal figure Oliver North predicts he will become the party's U.S. Senate nominee.

His opponent, James Miller, 51, budget director under former President Ronald Reagan, said the race for the Republican nomination remained close. Mr. Miller conceded he remained in an uphill fight since Col. North has ardent supporters.

"It's emotion over reason," said Mr. Miller.

But he added the central question for delegates casting their ballots Saturday remained:

"Do we want to stick it to Bill Clinton or don't we? If we want to, we've got to pick someone who will win."

The latest polls show that if the general election were being held now and not in November,

Democrat Charles Robb would defeat Col. North and keep his Senate seat. But Mr. Robb would lose to Mr. Miller, the surveys show.

Mr. Robb is expected to win the June 14 Democratic primary.

Col. North's supporters said he has enough votes to win the Republican nomination and they have prepared a "North victory bus trip" through Virginia to begin Sunday. The move echoes that of then-presidential candidate Bill Clinton who used a bus to travel around the country after he won the Democratic slot in 1992.

Col. North, 50, was fired from his job at the National Security Council when the Iran-contra scandal broke in 1986. The scandal transformed him from an obscure Marine officer to a national celebrity.

His supporters believe him to be super-patriot who stood up to congressional question-

ers in 1987 and defended his secret — illegal White House sales of arms to Iran with profits funnelled to U.S.-backed rebels in Nicaragua.

He was convicted of lying to Congress, shredding documents and accepting a gift of a security fence from an Iran-contra figure. The convictions were thrown out because the special prosecutor was unable to prove they were not tainted by the congressional testimony given under grant of immunity.

Col. North's political ambitions have made the Virginia race one of the most closely-watched in the nation.

But Col. North also has split the Virginia's party, which is coming off a victory with last year's election of Republican Governor George Allen.

Instead of a celebrating in this city that served as the old confederacy's capital during the civil war, Republicans are fighting each other.

Col. North, campaigning as

a Washington "outsider" who promises to cut spending, lower taxes and limit terms of members of Congress if elected, has the backing of right-wing conservatives including many Christian fundamentalists.

Mr. Miller, like Col. North, is a novice to elective politics. Mr. Miller is backed by mainstream Republican who fear "extremists" will take over the party apparatus if Col. North wins.

Virginia's senior Republican Senator John Warner calls Col. North "an embarrassment" alleging he lied to Congress over the covert arms-for-hostage sale that touched off the worst scandal of the Reagan administration.

Former President Ronald Reagan has criticised Col. North as well. In a letter to former Nevada Senator Paul Laxalt, Mr. Reagan denied that Col. North had privately briefed him about the arms deal as Col. North contended.

Col. North, campaigning as

## Children buy used syringes as toys in China

BEIJING (R) — Chinese children are being sold used disposable syringes to use as water pistols in a medical nightmare that risks spreading diseases such as hepatitis and AIDS, the official Farmer's Daily said Friday. The Medicine Inspection Institute and other official organisations in Zaoyang City, Hubei province, have cracked down on the used-syringe trade and confiscated 10,000 dirty needles from businesses, it said. "Private businessmen bought these polluted syringes at seven fen (less than one U.S. cent) each and sold them to schoolchildren as toys at 20-40 fen (2.5-4.5 cents) each," the newspaper said.

"Schoolchildren would use the syringes as water guns, spraying water on each other, or make them into pencils," it said. The newspaper urged greater attention to the problem of used syringes, which can carry deadly viruses. "They must be destroyed according to the rules and regulations, but some medical units have failed to destroy them," the newspaper said. "This type of polluted syringe is being sold at the gates of many rural schools."

Police and official media reports said at least 172 bodies had been found in East Java, while 47 people were missing. At least 630 homes were destroyed in the initial quake and tidal waves, which struck when most people were sleeping. About 260 vessels, mainly fishing boats, were missing.

The

killer waves pounded a remote and sparsely-populated area in the southeastern corner of Java. They followed a quake measuring 5.9 on the Richter Scale at 1.0 a.m. on Friday (1800 GMT Thursday). Its epicentre was beneath the Indian Ocean.

MOSCOW (R) — Moscow authorities have banned the sale of "erotic material" in the capital's streets in a bid to stop pornography getting into children's hands, a senior city official said Friday. Vladimir Petukhov, deputy head of the city administration's press committee which drafted the new law clamping down on the sale of pornography, said from now on adult publications could only be sold in special designated shops. "The city council decided that the sale of these kinds of publications should be regulated as it is in other places in the world. The sale will be controlled — there is no ban on distribution," he said in a telephone interview.

"You know as well as I do that this kind of stuff is sold close to schools and other educational establishments. The city does not control this in any way at the moment." The law bans the sale of pornography in the streets, at underground and railway stations, pedestrian walkways and many other open spaces. It forbids the sale of pornography both to and by those under 16. Russians, in public at least, have always had a somewhat prudish attitude to sexual matters and pornography was almost unknown in the former Soviet Union until the late 1980s. But trade in pornography has now highly profitable and it is virtually impossible to escape sellers of explicit magazines in the centre of the city.

**20% of Hong Kong girls want to be boys**

HONG KONG (R) — A survey has found that one out of every five Hong Kong girls wishes she had been born a boy, a newspaper said. The results sparked calls in the British colony for a more comprehensive youth services policy and the elimination of gender bias and sex-role stereotyping in education, the South China Morning Post reported.

The survey polled 2,087 Hong Kong youths of both sexes between the ages of 12 and 17. Slightly more than 19 per cent of the girls surveyed said they would prefer to be boys because "girls have more restrictions than boys" and "boys can protect girls," the paper said.

Only 3.8 per cent of boys were unhappy with their sex, it said. The survey found that 49 per cent of girls and 35.7 per cent of boys felt the status of the two sexes was unequal.

**Snake soup — good for what ails you**

NEW YORK (AP) — It was enough to make your skin crawl. Police investigating a burglary report at a storefront found a one-stop rattlesnake shopping outlet. Officers arrested three men and recovered 62 venomous western diamondback rattlers. That's not all they found. There were 30 frozen rattlers, several rattlers cooking in a pot

# Sports

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 1994

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Wendlinger emerges from coma

HINWIL, Switzerland (AP) — Austrian driver Karl Wendlinger has regained consciousness after more than three weeks in a coma since crashing during practice for the Monaco Grand Prix May 12. Wendlinger has been able to talk with relatives and has even begun to read magazines in hospital at Nice, his Sauber-Mercedes team announced here Saturday. The Austrian, whose condition is improving daily, is to be repatriated next week to Innsbruck's university hospital.

### UEFA fines AC Milan 140,000 francs

ZURICH, Switzerland (AP) — UEFA Friday fined European champions AC Milan a total of 140,000 Swiss francs \$100,000 for rule violations during the season-long competition. UEFA's control and disciplinary commission ordered the Italian club to pay a total 130,000 francs (\$92,000) because its fans hurled fireworks and other objects on to the field during the final against FC Barcelona and the semifinal against AS Monaco. It handed down an additional fine of 10,000 francs (\$7,000) to punish the team for behaviour during the May 18 final in the Greek capital of Athens. Milan, which is owned by Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, won its fifth champions cup title by beating Barcelona 4-0.

### S. Africans want to be 1st again

GENEVA, Switzerland (AP) — South Africa wants to stage its Formula One grand prix again next March in its traditional place as the opening event of the world championship season. "Our grand prix is already listed as the first race on the provisional 1995 calendar," said South African Automobile Association spokesman Peter Elliott here Friday. Elliott and Prince Thunburni-Ziamini are leading the South African delegation to the general assembly of FIA, the sport's ruling body.

### Jordan struggles at the bat

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama (AP) — Retired basketball star Michael Jordan, once among the top hitters in his league, now struggles to keep a .200 average in his new sport, baseball. Jordan dipped to a season-low .198 at the plate before a 1-for-1 performance here in front of National Basketball Association (NBA) pro Charles Barkley. Barkley has spent the week with Jordan while pondering whether or not to retire himself. Jordan had a 13-game hitting streak and a .327 batting average with the Birmingham Barons of the Class AA Southern League. But as he faces pitchers for the second and third times, they have learned to solve him by hurling curves and off-speed pitches instead of fastballs. Jordan, who guided the Chicago Bulls to three straight NBA crowns, quit to try and make the major leagues in the Chicago White Sox organization.

### Bulgarian soccer chief resigns

SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP) — The president of Bulgarian Soccer Federation offered his resignation Friday, after a row about the size of the bonuses he had promised to the World Cup team. Valentin Mihov, who was to head the Bulgarian delegation to the World Cup in the United States later this month, promised each player \$100,000 if the team makes it to the finals. But other members of the Bulgarian federation challenged him on grounds that the sum was unrealistically high, and that the federation could not hope to raise that kind of money.

### Pantani takes 14th stage

MERANO, Italy (AP) — Italy's Marco Pantani broke away on the final climb to win the 14th stage of the Tour of Italy by 40 seconds here Saturday. But Russian Evgeni Berzin retained the overall leader's pink jersey. Pantani, 24, beat out his more illustrious compatriots, Gianni Bugno and Claudio Chiappucci into second and third places. Pantani made his break, with 45 kilometres to go on the fifth and final climb of this 235km stage, for his first stage win in the Giro. And on the descent, he overtook Switzerland's Pascal Richard, the last rider of a long breakaway.

### Jorge takes over at Benfica

LISBON (AP) — Artur Jorge, who guided Paris St. Germain to the French championship, will coach Portuguese champions Benfica next season. The move was widely expected, but was confirmed for the first time by Benfica President Manuel Damasio in Saturday's edition of Bola newspaper. Portuguese gave PSG their most successful season, with only their second French title and a place in the semi-finals of the European Cup Winners Cup, where they were outgunned by Arsenal. But PSG's top officials opted to appoint a Frenchman, Luis Fernandez, for the coming season.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHAFI

& TANNIA HIRSCH

Yemen News Service, Inc.

#### KEEP YOUR COOL

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH: ♦ K 10 3 2

♦ 9 8 6 5

♦ 7

+ J 9 4

WEST: ♦ 9 8 6 7 4

♦ J 6

♦ Q

♦ A K 10 8 2

♦ 5 4

+ K 10 8 7 6 3 ♦ A 5 2

SOUTH: ♦ A Q 5

♦ 7 6 3 2

♦ A K 6 3

+ Q

The bidding:

East: South: West: North:

NT: 2 ♦ Pass: 2 ♦

DT: 2 ♦ Pass: 2 ♦

Pass: 4 ♦ Pass: Pass

Opening lead: Five of

It's only natural that you should

get upset when a play you make

costs your side a trick. But good

players take the disappointment

and go to work seeing if the

trick can be retrieved.

This hand was dealt in the Gold-

man Pairs at the recent Eastern

States Regional. South's two clubs

showed either a diamond one-suiter

or a major-minor two-suiter (clearly

the red suits the auction devel-

oped). The rest of the auction was

natural, although North's competitive

raise to three hearts was the act

of a free spirit.

West led a diamond, declarer won

it in hand and, since the odds on a

2-2 heart split are not that favor-

able, crossed to dummy to dummy

the king of spades to lead a trump. East

shot up with the king, a play that, in

practice, would be an error, but

is theoretically correct.

When that fetched partner's

queen, East benned himself and,

with no further thought, continued

with ace of hearts and another—a

defender that would have right

had declarer taken 5-5 in the red

suits. However, that would have given

an West 11 black cards and two

singletons and West would surely

have acted immediately. Since the

ten of spades would take care of one

of declarer's losers, the defenders

told only two heart tricks and a

club.

Instead, East should have re-

turned the jack of spades at trick four.

With insufficient entries to

dummy to draw trumps and take a

discard on the fourth spade, the

contract was no play. One way or

another, East must get a third

trump trick.

The hand was dealt in the Gold-

man Pairs at the recent Eastern

States Regional. South's two clubs

showed either a diamond one-suiter

or a major-minor two-suiter (clearly

the red suits the auction devel-

### Emirates-trained filly wins Epsom Oaks classic

EPSOM, England (R) — Balanchine, ridden by Frankie Dettori, became the first horse trained in the United Arab Emirates to win an English classic Saturday.

The filly, a 6-1 chance, also provided Dettori with his first success in an English classic, battling through driving rain to capture the Epsom Oaks by two and half lengths from wind in Her Hair (7-1), ridden by Richard Hills.

Hawajis (9-1), partnered by Walter Swinburn, finished third another one and a quarter lengths away in third place.

Balanchine, beaten nostril in the 1,000 Guineas, amply compensated with a first prize of \$221,000.

Bulaxie, ridden by Willie Carson, started 2-1 favourite, but after pulling strongly early on failed to produce her best and trailed home seventh of the 10 runners.

Carson had been hoping for

### Motor racing council confirms safety measures

GENEVA (AP) — World motor racing's ruling council Friday confirmed new safety measures aimed at increasing driver protection and cutting speeds in the wake of two deadly accidents that have stunned the sport.

The general assembly of the under-fire International Automobile Federation, FIA, said it would go ahead with plans to raise weight limits and introduce new fuel requirements and engine power restrictions with effect from the Canadian Grand Prix June 12.

There already has been opposition from some teams to measures introduced by FIA in the wake of the deaths of drivers Ayrton Senna and Roland Ratzenberger.

FIA hopes the controversy will go away while keeping all involved, drivers, teams, constructors, satisfied over the safety vs. performance debate.

The measures agreed unanimously by the 78-strong general assembly, were largely expected.

FIA President Max Mosley told a news conference that

### Racial charges, empty rooms haunt preparations

WASHINGTON (AP) — World Cup fever remains slow in spreading across the United States just two weeks before the opening of the 24-team global football championship tournament.

Mexican supporters will outnumber U.S. fans when the host team were to play their final tuneup game Saturday in Pasadena, site of the July 17 final.

Boston organisers enlisted children as a major part of a World Cup rally Friday, hoping their parents would help boost disastrously low hotel bookings. Instead, they stared blankly when asked if they had ever heard of Pelé.

Boston hotel owners also have blank stares. Only 40,000 rooms have been booked for World Cup, compared to the 220,000 expected when they

spent \$180,000 as part of a host city bid.

In Dallas, a Nigerian group was seeking the removal of the police chief of the suburban city where their homeland's team is based, citing racial slurs the law officer made.

All in all, it's confused state

of events as teams begin to arrive.

The U.S. team submitted its final roster three hours before Friday's deadline, the last of the 24 teams to complete plans. About 60,000 fans were expected at the Rose Bowl for Saturday's exhibition, most of them rooting for Mexico.

"It's always going to be an uphill battle for soccer in America," said John Harkes, the midfielder who plays in England and will join the U.S. team for practice starting Monday.

"We start training at 9:45 a.m.

after the second round of players and finish at midday moments before the next session.

We can only start up again at 4:30 p.m." Solar's brother Eduardo told the Argentine sports magazine El Grafico this week.

"It's tough. We can't afford

to be a second late as they're

very strict religiously," he said.

"There's even some sort of

special police force which

checks players are praying at

the right time."

Solar, nicknamed Indio in Argentina for his indigenous

looks, spent his first weeks in Riyad in a hotel room, having been denied access to his players who were observing a mandatory fasting period.

He used the time to watch

videos of the group qualifiers

and plot strategy for what will

be the Saudis' first World Cup

finals.

Solar, who last October

signed an overweight Diego Maradona for Argentine club Newell's Old Boys, still finds himself worrying about his players' waistlines.

"Saudi players struggle to

maintain the ideal weight as

their tables overflow with fantastic food," said Eduardo, also a former first division player and qualified coach with considerable Argentine league experience.

"You even find food in hotel lifts. We can only suggest that

the boys do everything in moderation until the World Cup."

Saudi Arabia's players, the

first squad to arrive in the

United States for the finals

starting June 17, know their

### Rain stops final of French Open

PARIS (AFP) — The women's singles final between Spain's Arantxa Sanchez and Mary Pierce of France, which began in steady drizzle nearly five hours behind schedule, was stopped after just three games because of renewed rain here Saturday.

The scores were 2-1 to

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Iran to mediate between Afghan Shi'ite rivals

KABUL (AFP) — Iran's deputy foreign minister, Alaeddin Broujerdi, is to mediate while here between rival groups within the Afghan Shi'ite faction Hezb-e-Wahdat, party sources said Saturday. A Foreign Ministry official here said Mr. Broujerdi arrived Friday for a five-day visit that will include meetings with Afghan leaders. Mr. Broujerdi came amid an ongoing leadership dispute in Wahdat between incumbent Ali Mazari and his challenger Akbar Azimi, a former member of the party's central committee. Sources in the Iranian-backed faction said the row, which triggered fighting between supporters of the two men late last month, had caused one indefinite postponement of plans to hold party elections. Wahdat is loosely linked with an alliance fighting to overthrow Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani, which is made up mainly of Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e-Islami and forces of the Uzbek warlord General Abdul Rashid Dostum. Iran, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have frequently urged the warring Afghan factions to settle their differences to end the five months of fighting that has left more than 2,500 dead and at least 17,000 injured.

### Kuwait's Sheikha Mariam dies in London hospital

KUWAIT (R) — Sheikha Mariam, eldest daughter of Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullatif Al Sabah, died in a London hospital early on Saturday, the official Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported. Sheikha Mariam, 44, had been on a life-support machine at London's Guy's hospital where she had been taken after suffering severe head injuries in a Kuwait car accident last week.

### Iranian denies charge of bombing attempt

BANGKOK (AP) — An Iranian arrested by Thai police has denied involvement in an aborted bomb attack in Bangkok, a Thai newspaper reported Saturday. The man, identified by police as Hossein Shahriarfar, 28, was arrested Friday in southern Thailand. Two other Iranians were held for questioning with him but later released, police said. Police said Mr. Shahriarfar was one of three men responsible for rigging up a one-tonne truck bomb for a suspected attack on the Israeli embassy in Bangkok. The truck got into an accident with a motorcycle taxi and the driver abandoned it before any attack took place. Police defused the bomb. "I am not a terrorist. I am a businessman. There must be some big mistake," the Nation newspaper quoted Mr. Shahriarfar as saying Friday after he was flown to Bangkok. National Police chief Pratin Santiprapob said witnesses including the motorcycle driver identified Mr. Shahriarfar as the driver of the truck.

### U.N. to compensate Egyptian victims of war

CAIRO (AP) — More than three years after the Gulf war ended, the United Nations has agreed to pay \$1.5 million to compensate about 600 Egyptians who lost family members or were disabled in the war. The Foreign Ministry said Saturday a letter from the U.N. compensation committee promised to pay \$2,500 for each valid claim within six months. The committee, formed by the Security Council to adjudicate claims, set the level of compensation. Ministry official Jilan Allam said the U.N. decision will not address claims of an estimated 670,000 Egyptian workers who fled Iraq and Kuwait during the seven months Iraq occupied the emirate. An international coalition expelled Iraqi troops on Feb. 26, 1991. The committee's approval came in response to Foreign Minister Amr Musa's complaint that the committee was taking too long to meet its commitments, Mr. Allam said.

### India carries out missile test

NEW DELHI (AFP) — India carried out controversial tests of its home-built short-range missile, the Prithvi, on Saturday in defiance of intense U.S. pressure to scrap its missile programme. The tests conducted by the army were part of the first "user-trial" of the missile, which has a range of 250 kilometres and were intended to test its reach and accuracy ahead of possible deployment. "The user-trials of the Prithvi surface-to-surface missile commenced today," Defence Ministry spokesman said. "These first tests in the series have fully met the requirements." Prithvi (earth) streaked into the sky at 11:40 a.m. (0610 GMT) from the Chandipur-on-Sea interim test range in the eastern coastal state of Orissa, the Press Trust of India said. More trials will be held in "battle-field conditions" in other parts of the country using conventional warheads, the news agency said, citing unnamed defence ministry sources speaking from the launch site.

### Dalai Lama receives Four Freedoms Prize

MIDDLEBURG, The Netherlands (AFP) — Tibet's spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, received the Roosevelt Institute's Four Freedoms Prize here Saturday at an official ceremony attended by Princess Juliana, mother of Queen Beatrix. The Dalai Lama, on a three-day visit, received the award from the grandson of the late U.S. president, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Christopher Roosevelt. The prize is named after the former U.S. leader, who in 1941 named four freedoms: freedom of expression, freedom of religious observance, freedom from fear and freedom to fight poverty. The Roosevelt family originated from the Middelburg region of central Holland. The prize is awarded alternatively in New York and Middelburg.

### Warrant out for Bangladesh feminist writer

DHAKA (AFP) — The Bangladesh government Saturday issued an arrest warrant against controversial feminist writer Taslima Nasreen, United News of Bangladesh news agency reported. Ms. Nasreen, 32, drew fire after being quoted as saying in a newspaper interview that the Holy Koran should be rewritten. She denied making the comments but has become the centre of attacks by fundamentalist groups. The chief metropolitan magistrate, Shahiduddin Ahmad, issued a warrant for "intent to deliberately and maliciously outrage the religious feelings of Muslims." The warrant came one day after 3,000 fundamentalists fought police demanding Ms. Nasreen's punishment. The ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party's youth wing has also demanded her punishment. Ms. Nasreen achieved notoriety after the government banned her book "Lajja," (Shame). It said the book was blasphemous and hurt Islamic sentiments.

### 100 fundamentalists arrested in S. Yemen

ADEN (AFP) — Authorities in southern Yemen have arrested more than 100 members of the Islamic fundamentalist group Jihad which supports President Ali Abdullah Saleh, an official here said Saturday. Abdul Rahman Al Jifri, appointed vice president of a breakaway southern state, described Jihad members as a "fifth column." The arrests started two weeks ago, he said, adding that arms and communication equipment were seized. The arrested fundamentalists were in prison awaiting trial under military law.

### Dr. Luma Shawa

Member of the Royal College  
of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists  
of Britain

announces the opening of her  
obstetrics, gynaecology and fetal medi-  
cine clinic at:

81 Ibn Khaldoun St.  
(Al Khaldi Hospital St.)  
Tel. 619530

## Doctors stop work for 2 hours

By Ica Wahbeh  
*Jordan Times Staff Reporter*

AMMAN — Around 2,000 doctors at Ministry of Health hospitals stopped work for two hours on Saturday in their quest to have salary "discrepancies" among themselves and colleagues in other medical sectors in the country addressed.

Jordan Medical Association President Ismaq Marqa said the move was not prompted by the "desire to have their salaries increased over other government employees but rather for justice."

"Doctors have decided to express their unacceptable situation by stopping work for two hours, just as a signal of the seriousness of the situation and to show that they are not able to tolerate this discrimination in salaries and other non-financial privileges any more," Dr. Marqa told the Jordan Times.

The action is not new, he said, as for the past four years the doctors have been trying in vain to "guarantee justification of this unacceptable status."

"This has created a feeling of uneasiness amongst the Ministry of Health doctors. We are looking forward to the meeting on Sunday (today) with the deputy prime minister, Dr. Maan Abu Nowar, and the minister of health, Dr. Abdul Rahim Malhas, to discuss the matter seriously and hope to reach a decision that will ease the tension among doctors," Dr. Marqa said.

While expressing "certainty" that the government is greatly concerned with the injustice the doctors are living, Dr. Marqa said that "we feel they (the government) should and are able to secure financial resources for it."

"They (the doctors) are the only ministry employees who are suffering from discrimination in salaries amongst themselves and their colleagues and we feel that if the government decides to find a solution for this chronic problem, the time is very suitable for it," he said.

The reason behind the doctor's optimism is the fact that Prime Minister Majali is familiar with the problem since he served as a minister of health years ago, headed the Jordan University and was responsible for medical affairs, besides being the head of the (now defunct) National Medical Association.

Some doctors say two hours of work stoppage might not make a big difference to the patients, especially as they had pledged to treat emergencies, but if their demands will not be met and they decide to stop work for a day or longer, the results could have serious repercussions.

### List of demands

The doctors are demanding salaries equivalent to those of physicians working at the University of Jordan Hospital and military hospitals in the Kingdom.

A list of demands and organisational matters provided to the Jordan Times mentions "improvement of the financial situation of the Ministry of Health doctors that would enable them to lead a dignified life and would prevent good doctors from leaving government hospitals."

It also emphasises the need to hire good specialists at these hospitals in order to improve health services and maintain a standard comparable to that of the other medical institutions.

The demands sparked a strike about two years ago and continue to be an issue over a two-tier system of granting allowances, putting the doctors into the category of "before 1988" and after.

According to the paediatrician, doctors who started work before 1988 are given 35 per cent of the "overall" salary as allowance while those who started work after 1988 are granted 30 per cent of the "basic" salary allowance. This creates a gap between the doctors working for the same institution and has, as a result, made the doctors to seek for the cancellation or improvement of the system.

According to a study presented in 1991 by the then minister of health, Mamoud Al Abbadi, to the prime minister, the gap is even bigger between the pay received by the ministry's doctors and those working at military or university hospitals, reaching (at the time) 43 per cent the case of a specialist and 38 per cent in that of a general practitioner.

For the first time in five years, visitors underwent searches at the entrance to the shrine, which is paved with marble and decorated with a golden dome and four tall minarets.

Security forces posted several kilometres away blocked



QUEEN MOTHER REMEMBERED: Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Mohammed, Crown Prince Hassan, Princess Sarvath and Princess Basma on Saturday attend a ceremony held to mark the elapse of 40 days after the death of Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

## Germans, French honour each other's war dead

Combined agency despatches

accepted the last-minute invitation to speak at the German ceremony.

"I was honoured. It has been very moving for me. We believe in reconciliation, but not in forgetting," he said.

The gestures of reconciliation came as allied leaders gathered in Britain, in the absence of German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, for three days of ceremonies honouring the soldiers who fought and died in the world's greatest amphibious invasion.

Before Mr. Clinton took the podium, British Prime Minister John Major and U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, who is a former pilot, also paid tribute to those who gave their lives.

"It is the brotherhood of soldier to soldier, sailor to sailor and airman to airman that we commemorate here," Mr. Major said.

"They came to defend freedom and democracy, justice and human rights. The peoples of Europe owe their freedom and peace to those who honour this weekend, both the living and the fallen."

On Omaha Beach in Normandy, allied soldiers were lashed by driving rain as they rehearsed for Monday's main international commemoration to be attended by 19 national leaders and tens of thousands of veterans.

Standing on the green bank which is the Cambridge American Cemetery and Memorial at Madingley, around 100 kilometres north of London,

Mr. Clinton said: "The British gave us inspiration, the Americans in return gave hope."

"They fought to defeat a great evil which threatened to destroy our very way of life, what Winston Churchill called the great principles of freedom and the rights of man, which are the joint inheritance of the English speaking world."

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Nearly 3,000 Americans died fighting for that strip of sand fringed by cliffs. In a eulogy, Gen. Smith recalled the unit's motto: "No mission too difficult, no sacrifice too great. Duty first."

At one such ceremony, 40 veterans of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division, led by General Albert Smith, 75, who landed at Omaha Beach amid carnage early on June 6, 1944, prayed together at the cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer, overlooking the coast.

Nearly 3,000 Americans died fighting for that strip of sand fringed by cliffs. In a eulogy, Gen. Smith recalled the unit's motto: "No mission too difficult, no sacrifice too great. Duty first."

At the time, she said: "I was able to regain some patience, where I could think about the meaning of the pain and look inside myself. I apologise for having made everybody worried and I give heartfelt thanks to all the people who encouraged me."

**Don Johnson enters Betty Ford Clinic**

LOS ANGELES (R) — Actor Don Johnson, who starred as detective Sonny Crockett in the long-running hit television series Miami Vice, entered the Betty Ford Centre Friday for unspecified treatment, his publicist said. Elliott Mintz said Johnson checked in to the drug and alcohol dependency treatment centre Friday morning and would remain there for four weeks. Johnson's wife, actress Melanie Griffith, filed for divorce in March citing irreconcilable differences and sought primary custody of the couple's four-year-old daughter, Dakota. The couple have wed twice, and the second marriage was in its fifth year when Ms. Griffith made her divorce filing. Johnson starred in a number of ill-fated B movies, such as *Revenge Of The Stepford Wives*, *A Boy And His Dog*, and *Return To Macao County*, before landing the *Miami Vice* lead role, which brought him fame and fortune as the freewheeling Crockett. Since the series ended he has starred with Griffith in two movies — *Paradise And The Devil* and *Return To Macao County*, before landing the *Miami Vice* lead role, which brought him fame and fortune as the freewheeling Crockett. Since the series ended he has starred with Griffith in two movies — *Paradise And The Devil* and *Return To Macao County*.

**Streisand's possessions to be auctioned**

COMMERCE, Calif. (R) — Hundreds of personal possessions owned by superstar Barbra Streisand, including household goods, furniture and collectibles, will be sold at auction, A.N. Abell Auction Co. said Friday. The June 12 auction will also feature the library of the late actor Vincent Price, including his collection of art books, biographies and general interest works. Included in the collection of Ms. Streisand's possessions to be auctioned are items from the three Malibu homes the entertainer donated to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. The auction of more than 100 items was authorised by Ms. Streisand.

## COLUMN

### 'Snake invasion terrifies village'

AMMAN (AP) — Hundreds of snakes have invaded a town in southern Jordan and a special task force killed more than 350 in 30 minutes, Sawt Al Shaab daily reported Saturday. It quoted Rateb Al Oran, a biology professor from Mutu University in Maan who heads the task force of civil defence and Agriculture Ministry personnel, as saying more snakes are on the way. The snakes, which are not poisonous, appeared in the Dallagh area 215 kilometres south of Amman last week. Dr. Oran's task force used water hoses and chemicals to kill the snakes, which were between 30 centimetres and 50 centimetres long. "The villagers are terrified since they refused to believe that the snakes are not poisonous," he said. It was the second such incident in the oasis town in two years. The last time, more than 1,500 snakes were killed. Dr. Oran said.

**Empress Michiko feared she'd never speak again**

TOKYO (R) — Japan's Empress Michiko, who was unable to speak for several months after collapsing last October, said Friday she almost lost hope at one point of ever talking again. "To lose speech was a completely unforeseeable thing," Empress Michiko told a news conference in a small but firm voice. "All I could do at that time was to accept reality." The empress collapsed on Oct. 20, her 59th birthday. Although first signs pointed to a minor stroke, palace officials said later that tests showed no brain damage. They speculated her loss of speech could have been caused by deep depression over critical articles about her in the popular press. During her ordeal, Empress Michiko said she was heartened by Emperor Akihito and daughter Princess Nori. "But day after day, the sorrow from having lost words became larger and at one time I almost lost hope." She thanked those who encouraged her at the time. She said: "I was able to regain some patience, where I could think about the meaning of the pain and look inside myself. I apologise for having made everybody worried and I give heartfelt thanks to all the people who encouraged me."

**Don Johnson enters Betty Ford Clinic**

Capital punishment in Kuwait is by hanging, usually in prison.

Thirteen of the defendants pleaded innocent. Only a 36-year-old Iraqi nurse, Wali Al Gazali, pleaded guilty.

He told the three-judge panel that Iraqi agents gave him a car packed with 80 kilograms of explosives and ordered him to blow it up at Kuwait University, where it was believed Mr. Bush was to be honoured during his April 14 visit.

Mr. Gazali initially said he was provided with a belt of explosives to use in a suicide attack if the car-bomb plan did not work. He later retracted that.

Bader Jiyad Al Shammiri, 30, the only Kuwaiti sentenced to death, let the men park their cars in his sheep pen. He claimed he thought they were alcohol smugglers.

**Death sentences in Kuwait automatically go to an appeal court for review. If upheld, they have to be approved by the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al**

**States and its allies.**

Ayatollah Khomeini admitted that Iran was still assailed by "enemy ... propaganda and economic and political campaigns," but was "not scared."

The Islamic republic, he declared "has stood steadfast" in resisting U.S. efforts to crush it and will continue to do so.

Speaking in the mausoleum Friday night, Ayatollah Rafsanjani said Iran was able to thwart "enemy plots" because of Ayatollah Khomeini's inspired leadership and the ideological legacy he left.

As the clerical oligarchy made their ritual denunciations of the West, mourners frequently roared "Death to America," the mantra of Ayatollah Khomeini's Islamic revolution that toppled the Pahlavi dynasty.

Ayatollah Khomeini died on June 3, 1989, but the anniversary is marked on June 4, the day his death was announced.

## Iranians remember Khomeini in light security

approach roads to the shrine, only allowing through buses carrying pilgrims.

Nervous-looking officers started an argument with a journalist who tried to enter a hall as President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani delivered a speech on Friday night.

Police officers were also posted every 100 metres along the road from central Tehran to the shrine, as dozens of others were stationed at crossroads standing next to the shrines with the engines on.

Even in the affluent northern Teheran, where many residents have taken advantage of three days of mourning to leave town for a holiday, anti-riot police units were deployed.

War veterans in wheelchairs and victims of Bosnia's civil war joined the mourners in the golden dome and four tall minarets.

Ayatollah Khomeini said Iran would stick to the revolutionary path laid down by

Ayatollah Khomeini, the cleric who toppled Iran's U.S.-backed ruler, the Shah, in 1979 and established the Islamic republic.

"The road to happiness for the Iranian nation, according to the Imam